MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Raja'i Comment--Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i told a group of diplomats on 27 December that the United States is using the hostages as a "pretext" to maintain its influence in Iran and is not interested in securing their release. According to Tehran radio's Arabic service, Raja'i said the U.S. Government has three choices: to accept Iran's terms, giving financial guarantees to Algeria and returning all of Iran's assets; to return part of Iran's assets over which there is no dispute and to resolve the other disputed claims through legal channels while Iran continues to hold the hostages; or to continue to plot against Iran and cooperate with Iraq in the Gulf war. The prime minister added that the United States does not seem interested in speeding up the negotiations to find a solution to the hostages issue. In the radio's English service version of his remarks, Raja'i said that Iran has "no difficulty" holding the hostages until the United States agrees to its terms, adding that the hostages "will be kept in good condition."

Nabavi Interview--In a Tehran radio interview, Minister of State Behzad Nabavi said that the United States has tried to "pull the wool over our eyes" by offering "100 pages of paper" in exchange for the hostages and then hoping that Iran will forget its claims and frozen assets. Saying that Iran cannot "bargain" over its wealth like this, Nabavi stressed that Iran needs "acceptable guarantees" to implement the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages.

Trial Deadline--Demonstrators in Tehran celebrating a Muslim feast day called on the Iranian Government to set a deadline for the United States to agree to Iran's conditions for the release of the hostages. In their resolution, reported by AFP, the demonstrators urged that the hostages be quickly brought to trial if the United States does not meet the dealine.

Afghan Protest in Tehran

Hundreds of Afghan refugees demonstrated outside the Soviet and Afghan embassies in Tehran on 27 December, AFP reported, protesting the Soviet invasion and continued occupation of Afghanistan. While Tehran radio claimed that revolution guards and police "thwarted" an attempt by the demonstrators to enter the Soviet Embassy, a TASS report headlined "outrageous provocation" said that "hooligan-type elements" and "thugs" forced their way into the embassy's reception area, causing "considerable material damage." TASS further reported that the Soviet Foreign Ministry on 28 December made a "resolute protest" to Iran over the incident, charging that "raging elements ... grossly violated" the embassy, threatening the lives of embassy personnel and insulting the Soviet flag.

Citing the protest note, TASS also reported that "only after numerous and insistent demands" by the Soviet ambassador did Iranian authorities act to eject the demonstrators. Calling the occupation a "glaring violation ... extraterritoriality," the note held Iran responsible for damage to the embassy and urged Iran to consider "appropriate measures" to protect the Soviet Union's "lawful interests." Tehran radio noted the Protest without comment but later reported that Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, in a speech to the Majlis, accused the Soviet Union itself of being responsible for the attack on its embassy and defended the actions of the revolution guards and police in preventing the occupation of the embassy.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Khomeyni Speech--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni appealed to Khuzestan Arab tribesmen to ignore plots intended to split them from their Persian brothers and urged them to unite under the "flag of Islam" and "monotheism." In his speech to the tribesmen, reported by Tehran radio, Khomeyni warned against false nationalistic appeals by Iraq and the superpowers who seek to divide Muslims, plunder and destroy their wealth.

In a sharp rebuttal, an Arabistan (Iraqi name for Khuzestan) spokesman, cited by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, characterized Khomeyni's remarks as a distortion and an attempt "to escape the mounting wave of indignation" among the Iranian people over the war. Saying that the "charlatan of Qom" is trying to deceive the world into believing that harmony exists among the Arabistan tribesmen, the spokesman declared that Khomeyni is fabricating lies as a "last resort" to preserve the Islamic revolution.

Khomeyni Warning--In another speech reported by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Khomeyni stressed the need for all officials, including the president, prime minister and others, to "wake up," "cease their hostility" toward each other and meet the tests imposed by the war with Iraq. Khomeyni called on these officials to declare a "cease-fire" in their personal disputes and get on with the war.

Military Conflict--Tehran radio reported Iranian helicopters in action around Ahvaz and Khuninshahr, attacking Iraqi armored vehicles and entrenchments. Further fighting continued on the Abadan-Mahshahr axis, the radio said, along with artillery exchanges on the Sumar, Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin fronts. In a series of communiques carried by Baghdad radio, the Iraqi General Command reported sustained fighting in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region with heavy Iranian losses as well as further clashes around Abadan, Ahvaz and Dezful.

Iraq

Iraq and Turkey signed an agreement to enlarge the Kirkuk-Yurmurtalik oil pipeline, increasing its capacity from 35 million tons to 45-50 million tons annually. Ankara radio reported that the agreement came at the end of 2 days of talks between Iraqi and Turkish officials in Ankara.

Israel

Yitzhaq Moda'i has resigned as communications minister but has still retained the energy and infrastructure portfolio. Reporting that the Cabinet accepted Moda'i's resignation, Jerusalem radio indicated that the minister's decision resulted from difficulties arising in implementing the government's proposal to establish a communications company and a postal authority. The radio said sources close to Moda'i revealed that the minister believes some officials are impeding the establishment of the postal authority.

Syria

Following a Damascus radio report that Progressive National Front Central Command member Darwish az-Zuni was assassinated on 27 December by "the gang of murder and treason," the newspaper TISHRIN accused the Jordanian monarchy of being "closely linked" with "remnants of the routed gangs" that have returned to using assassination as a political weapon. The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH also warned Jordan that its alleged support for Az-Zuni's assassination "will not pass unpunished." Damascus radio reported an "impressive procession" attended Az-Zuni's funeral including Ba'th Party Assistant Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar and Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm.

Lebanon

After several armed clashes in Zahlah over Christmas, Beirut radio and the Voice of Lebanon radio reported a gradual relaxation of tension in the city following a 26 December cease-fire agreement. Both radios also reported shooting in Beirut. The Voice of Lebanon radio revealed that an anti-Iraqi organization claimed responsibility for attacks on the French Embassy in the capital.

Afghanistan

National Fatherland Front--Kabul radio reported that a conference of "national patriotic forces" authorized a supreme elected commission to begin organizing the founding congress of a "national fatherland front" due to be held in 1981. The front will be broad based, including, among others, "national capitalists" and ulema.

Karmal Speech--According to TASS, DRA leader Babrak Karmal told the conference that the fatherland front will unite all classes and patriotic forces while the PDPA will be its "vanguard political force." Kabul radio noted that Karmal went on to stress the government's "honor, observance and defense" of Islam and its role in helping the clergy fulfill their duties. The government, Karmal said, has decided to establish a Department of Islamic Affairs and, under the aegis of a Supreme Religious Council, will take more heed of shrines, mosques and rituals. Karmal also announced a new draft law on military conscription.

Egypt

In speeches, statements and interviews reported by Cairo radio, President Anwar as-Sadat reaffirmed Egyptian support for the Afghan Mojahedin and pledged to supply antitank and antiaircraft weapons to the guerrillas. As-Sadat also warned the mojahedin against involvement in "Arab and Islamic differences."

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FINAL STATEMENT OF THE JERUSALEM COMMITTEE SESSION

LD250027 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] The following is the final statement of the Jerusalem Committee session:

The Jerusalem Committee held its fourth session in Rabat, Morocco, in the period 22-24 December 1980 under the chairmanship of King Hassan II in implementation of Article 24 of the Islamic Conference of foreign ministers emergency session resolution concerning the questions of Jerusalem and Palestine which was held in Fes, Morocco, on 18-20 September 1980. The resolution entrusted the Jerusalem Committee with the task of preparing a comprehensive plan to mobilize all the potentials of the Islamic states for facing the Israeli aggression and submitting this plan to the Islamic summit which is due to be held in the Saudi kingdom.

Delegations from the following states attended the Jerusalem Committee session: The People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of Lebanon, the Kingdom of Moroccan, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Palestine, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Senegal, the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic as well as the secretariat general of the Islamic Conference. Absent were: the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

King Hassan II opened the Jerusalem Committee session with an important speech in which he stressed the special importance of the Jerusalem Committee session which is to lay down a comprehensive plan to achieve the following three aims: (a) to liberate holy Jerusalem, (b) to help liberate the occupied Arab territories and (c) to establish a Palestinian state.

The king also spoke about the international circumstances in the current phase and its contingencies, emphasizing that 1981 will be a decisive year and that the Islamic world has enough experience to enable it, if it practiced realism and earnestness, to achieve the objectives which are sought by the Islamic nation and which are not beyond its ingenuity.

The king referred to the plan the Jerusalem Committee has been asked to prepare and explained that the plan would be submitted to the forthcoming summit on which the Islamic nation pins high hopes, hoping that the summit's assembly of Muslims will serve as an inspiration for honest intentions and seriousness in action.

Then the leader of the Bangladesh delegation spoke. He read the telegram of his president in which the latter wished the committee every success and hoped it would reach a comprehensive plan of action to face Israeli defiance and liberate holy Jerusalem. He also asked the committee to discuss and adopt the 15-point action program submitted by Bangladesh and adopted by the three-member summit subcommittee of the Jerusalem Committee during its Rabat meeting on 7 Nobember 1980.

The secretary general of the Islamic Conference organization spoke next. He paid tribute to the gigantic efforts made by King Hassan II since his assumption of the Jefusalem Committee chairmanship, which had a deep effect on the committee's progress toward the desired aim. Praising the lofty directives in his majesty's speech, he stressed that those directives would become the basis of this session's work in accomplishing the task entrusted to it.

Then the Syrian Arab Republic delegation leader spoke. He thanked the king for his valuable speech and referred to resolution 24 of the extraordinary Islamic foreign ministers conference in Fes providing for referring the contents of the Syrian-Palestinian working paper to the Jerusalem Committee for its consideration.

The leader of the Palestine delegation reviewed the developments in the Jerusalem and Palestine questions in light of current international circumstances and the expectations for 1981. He stressed the importance of the Jerusalem Committee meeting prior to the Islamic summit in Saudi Arabia which is to prepare a comprehensive action program based on a realistic basis in accordance with the needs of international circumstance.

After an exchange of views on the Moroccan, Jordanian, and Syrian-Palestinian working papers and the Bangladesh proposals, a drafting committee was formed to coordinate the working papers and prepare an action program inspired by those papers. The drafting committee comprised the delegates of Bangladesh, Guinea, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

During this meeting the question was raised of the continued daily acts of aggression by Israel against Lebanon and its savage raids against the Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps and the continued Israeli occupation of parts of South Lebanon. The Jerusalem Committee expressed deep concern at the existing situation in South Lebanon and denounced the Israeli aggression, calling on the Security Council to end it immediately and for the withdrawal of Israel from the land it occupies in South Lebanon and for implementation of the resolutions adopted in this connection by the Security Countil to facilitate the restoration of Lebanon's lawful authority in those regions.

[Text] The Jerusalem Committee issued the following statement at the conclusion of its session on 24 December:

In view of Israel's continued rejection of resolutions by the UN Security Council and other international organizations including the OAU and nonaligned movement, calling for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab Palestinian territories including holy Jerusalem and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right to return, self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state on their own territory under the leadership of the PLO, the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people;

In view of Israel's continued defiance of the feelings of Muslims and world public opinion by persisting in the adoption of measures which aim at Judaizing occupied Arab territories including holy Jerusalem, driving away its Arab inhabitants and exercising a policy of collective punishment against them and building Jewish settlements on their land and subjecting them to official and semiofficial terrorism which aims at compelling them to emigrate, and destroy and banish their political leaders;

In view of Israel's continued violation of Islamic holy places in Jerusalem, excavations in the city and disfigurement of its cultural and historic landmarks contrary to the resolutions and recommendations of the Security Council, the UN General Assembly and its specialized agencies;

In view of the unanimous belief which regards the Palestine question, in addition to having Arab and Palestinian dimensions, as an Islamic question and that action to liberate the occupied Arab and Palestinian territory, with Jerusalem in the forefront, is an Islamic commitment which the Islamic states undertook to carry out by using their political, military, economic and natural resources, including oil;

In view of Israel's continued violation of human rights and the Geneva conventions, thus breaking the UN charter and international law and conventions;

Convinced of the necessity to formulate a clear and thorough program for common Islamic action to face the Zionist enemy in the next phase;

Anxious to protect the gains and successes which have been achieved by the Palestinian struggle inside the occupied homeland, on the international level, and in the United Nations and in view of the need to continue common Islamic action to consolidate these successes and on the basis of the spirit of Islamic solidarity, the Jerusalem Committee has approved a comprehensive Islamic action program to face Israeli defiance, liberate holy Jerusalem, regain occupied Arab and Palestinian territory and achieve all the inalienable rights of the Palestine people. The program will be submitted to the forthcoming Islamic summit for its approval.

PALESTINIAN LEADER: KING HUSAYN SEEKS TO REPLACE PLO

JN201442 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, has declared that the Jordanian king's regime is resorting to every conspiratorial method against Syria, such as backing the criminal and murderous Muslim Brotherhood gangs in order to overthrow the Syrian regime, which is firmly resisting the Camp David Conspiracy.

In a statement to the Syrian paper TISHRIN, Dr Ghawshah said that King Husayn's regime claims that it supports the independence of the PLO, yet it prepares itself to represent the Palestinians in negotiations within a new Camp David process under the new U.S. administration, thereby replacing the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

Dr Ghawshah added that the friendship and cooperation treaty between Syria and the Soviet Union has restored the balance of power in the region. This treaty, he said, combines two progressive forces--an Arab force and an international force--in the common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Commenting on unity plans between Syria and Libya Dr Ghawshah said: We are with this unity which we hope will be a step toward comprehensive Arab unity. Undoubtedly, the achievement of this unity would be a major turning point in the Arab struggle because it would create an influential force and establish a solid base for Arab struggle during the next phase.

BAHRAIN

MINISTER ASKS ARABS TO HALT SLANDER OF REAGAN

JN271341 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1025 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Dec (GNA)--Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad has stated that the close relations and real solidarity existing among the Arab Gulf countries constitute a natural unity among these countries, which does not require any declaration or statement.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM today, the Bahraini information minister said that cooperation among the area's countries is based on amity, harmony and brotherhood and that mutual respect between these countries and the world will foster the political sympathy we need to champion our causes. On events in Lebanon, the Bahraini information minister said: The developments in that country disturb all Arab countries for no one has an interest in partitioning Lebanon. Speaking about conferences held by the Arab information ministers, the Bahraini minister hoped that these conferences will follow the same procedures used at Arab Gulf information ministers' conferences: namely, separate discussions on information and political issues and in camera debates.

The Bahraini information minister called for the avoidance of hasty judgments about U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan before obtaining confirmation of his stands toward the Arab nation. He added: Reagan has yet not officially assumed power. How could we expect him, or anyone, to support us if we ourselves do not help one another and do not know how to deal objectively with a political situation? The Bahraini information minister then called on all Arabs to halt all the slander of the U.S. president-elect.

KUWAIT

'SOURCES' SAY GULF STATES WANT SUMMIT WITH IRAN

JN241522 Doha QNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] Ash-Sharigah, 24 Dec (QNA)--The paper AL-KHALIJ, published in Ash-Sharigah today, quotes responsible sources in Kuwait as saying that certain Gulf states are seeking to convene a Gulf summit, which would include all parties, particularly Iran, with the purpose of establishing the foundations for firm and lasting relations among all of the region's states, which would in turn, represent a collective formula for the oil region's security.

Diplomatic sources in Kuwait also told the paper that the Arab Gulf state regions are seeking to initiate serious and effective efforts to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war and to contain any negative repercussions that might affect the future of relations between the Arab Gulf states and Iran. The sources add that the Islamic summit, which will be held in holy Mecca next January, will witness Arab and Islamic activity to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. These sources say that the 1975 Algiers agreement between Iran and Iraq will provide a thorough basis for introducing any amendment by which to solve the two states' dispute.

The paper adds that the Gulf states currently plan to propose the possibility of having a delegation comprising the heads of Islamic states visit Baghdad and Tehran following the Islamic summit in order to implement a decision that would be adopted by the Islamic Conference Organization to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER VIEWS PRESENCE OF U.S. AWACS

LD281114 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0804 GMT 28 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 28 Dec (SPA)--Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has made a statement to the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, which was also published by the Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH today.

Replying to a question on the circumstances under which the Saudi Arabian kingdom sought the help of AWACS, the prince said that the acquirement of this type of aircraft had moral as well as military significance. We had asked for these AWACS long before the outbreak of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the United States agreed to our request. But preparation of these aircraft takes time. So when we felt there was an immediate need for them, we asked for speeding up their dispatch even as a loan. Our acquiring the AWACS from the United States indicates the position our country enjoys in the Arab and Islamic world. This is because we have an international position recognized by the United States.

The prince added that the kingdom has advanced air defenses but it needs the AWACS to coordinate between these military activities. Furthermore, the AWACS provide an opportunity for Saudi personnel to undergo early training on them. The prince pointed out that the kingdom had in the past borrowed such planes on more than one occasion according to circumstances. What really matters, he said, is that the kingdom has found out that this type of aircraft is necessary for it and for our brothers in the Gulf. He also said that Saudi military technicians are taking part in these air commands within a program aimed at preparing a Saudi military cadre to take over the new planes which the kingdom will receive in the future.

KUNA Report

LD280846 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1723 GMT 28 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 28 Dec (KUNA)--Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, in a statement to the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH published here today, said that the Saudi Arabian kingdom faces no threat from the Iraqi-Iranian war, but warned that such a threat would develop if the superpowers were to interfere in that conflict.

Replying to a question on the American presence in the kingdom, Prince Sultan said that it was only a "technical" one connected with the arms imported from the United States. The prince denied that there are any treaties between the two countries, adding that the American presence "is part of the overall presence of a number of countries from whom we import arms and from whom we consequently need to obtain the know-how to train our military cadres." "However," he added, "we are not like others tied by treaties and conventions with foreign countries. Since its establishment, Saudi Arabia has been a free country choosing to cooperate with whomever its needs demand and asking whomever it wants to leave when it wants."

The prince expressed his belief that the superpowers seek to serve their own interests before anybody else's. "Our experience has taught us," he said, "that the superpowers do not care about the small countries."

MINISTER NOTES IMPORTANCE OF UPCOMING SUMMIT

LD261314 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 26 D-c (SPA)--Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, minister of information, has noted the great scope of the Islamic summit conference to be held next month and the enormous importance it represents to the whole Islamic world. In an interview published today by AL-YAMAMAH he says that this conference, which is considered one of the major events of this Hegira century, will be a watershed since it will deal deeply in the real issues [words indistinct] of interest to the Islamic world as an international power on the one hand and limitless possibilities on the other.

He pointed out that His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, thought it appropriate to open the conference in Mecca. He confirmed that all 42 of the Islamic countries which have been invited, and the 4 states which will be observers, have responded due to the importance of the conference and because they appreciate the sensitive historical circumstances through which the Islamic nation is passing.

Regarding the question of whether the conference will debate the Iraq-Iranian war, the minister confirmed that the conference will debate this matter.

KUNA: SAUDI PEACE PLAN PROPOSAL ANTICIPATED

LD270951 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0758 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Dec (KUNA)--A Kuwaiti paper today reports that the kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be submitting a plan to halt the Iranian-Iraqi war to the Islamic summit conference to be held in Mecca from the 24th of next month. AL-QABAS attributes to informed sources the statement that the plan, put forward by Saudi King Khalid to the leaders of the other Gulf countries in messages he sent to them recently, calls on the governments of Baghdad and Tehran to negotiate and to settle their problems through peaceful means. The newspaper says that the Gulf states have informed two Saudi envoys, who transmitted the messages which contained the main points of the plan, of their support for it and that they will work for its success.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ: AS-SADAT ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

GF261648 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 25 Dec 80 p 1

[Excerpt] An attempt was recently made to assassinate Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat when one of his presidential guards officers opened fire on him with a pistol. As-Sadat was on vacation in one of his 11 private resthouses when the attempt was made. The assassination atempt was reported by arrivals in Kuwait from Cairo who said that the Egyptian officer fired a stream of bullets at As-Sadat, who was sitting in a swing beside his wife Jihan in the garden of Al-Qanatir Al-Khayriyyah.

YAR

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH AUSTRALIA

JN201255 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement:

Due to their desire to open the way for greater relations and cooperation between the two countries, the YAR and Australian Governments have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the embassy level, on the basis of resident representatives, beginning today, 20 December 1980.

MATERIALS ON AFGHAN SOLIDARITY CELEBRATION

Afghan Leaders' Arrivals

NC251828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 25 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Dec (MENA)--Afghanistan Islamic Party leader (Muhammad Khas Yunis) and Deputy Leader of the Afghanistan Islami Society (Muhammad Tawana) arrived in Cairo today to attend Saturday's Islamic and Arab Peoples League celebration.

Thus, the leaders of five Afghan Islamic organizations are now in Cairo to attend Islamic and Arab Peoples League celebrations marking solidarity with the Afghan people.

Leaders Discuss Struggle

NC251459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0756 GMT 25 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 25 Dec (MENA)--The leaders of the Afghan struggle movements, now visiting Cairo, have emphasized their determination to continue the political and military struggle to liberate their country from the Soviet presence by all means.

Muhammad Bani Muhammadi, leader of the Inqilabi Islami Afghanistan--the Islamic Revolutionary Movement--spoke of the authority wielded by the Afghan revolution in the liberated areas. He said that the strugglers have liberated numerous areas in which they have established an independent political authority; they have also appointed Muslim revolutionaries as governors of the areas. The strugglers have also formed sharia [religious] courts and appointed judges to rule according to the great principles of Islam.

In a special interview with AL-AHRAM newspaper published today, he added that the Afghan people with all their communities have decided to struggle against the foreign atheist invasion to the end. He said: Either we liberate our country or be killed raising the weapon of faith and struggle.

He said: We wholeheartedly thank Egypt--government, people and president--because it was the first country which supported and assisted of its responsibilities and capabilities. [as received] As for the aid from other countries, I say that much has been said about such aid, but no one has assisted us until now except Egypt.

The Afghan leader concluded: In any case, we basically depend on the Afghan people. They provide the money and modern weapons to the strugglers, particularly antitank and anti-aircraft missiles, to confront the acts of annihilation and mass murder carried out by Soviet imperialism against the brave Afghan people.

Sayyid al-Jilani, leader of the National Islamic Front, then said: Although officially 1 year has passed since the Soviet invasion, the truth is that the Soviets had invaded our country since with the first Communist coup against former President Muhammad Dawud. They have massed their army in Afghanistan in a desperate attempt to strengthen their control over it.

He added: Despite their lack of training and shortage of weapons the resistance forces have accomplished much during the past year. They were able to liberate 75 percent of Afghanistan. While the Soviets and their agents are concentrated in the capital and some other main towns, the strugglers and insurgent tribesmen control the rural areas, the mountains and forests.

The Afghan leader pointed out that they have sent urgent messages to all members of the insurgent movements in all parts of the country emphasizing that they have agreed to unite their forces and establish an organized union among the three main fronts, which are Inqilabw Islami Afghanistan movement, the National Front for Safeguarding Afghanistan and the National Islamic Front.

He said that the establishment of such a union will serve as an axis for the rallying and unification of most of the other resistance organizations and movements in the future, particularly since the Afghan people have risen up against the Soviets on the basis of national and Islamic unity and are struggling for the sake of their religion, to which they will adhere forever.

He added: Therefore, we are waging the struggle as one rank, overstepping party differences, with a view to liberating our country from foreign domination and to giving our people their right to self-determination in accordance with Islamic law.

Concluding his statement, Al-Jilani said: Fortunately, our people are composed of tribes, and the tribesmen have basic training on the use of weapons. Every tribe has a group fighting with the revolutionary organizations. Therefore, our aims in establishing a single union are to spread the struggle among all the people and tribes and not to limit it to the present organizations, and to give everyone the right to participate in this union.

Afghan's Friday Sermon

NC261304 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Dec 80

[26 December Friday sermon delivered by the chairman of the National Front for Rescuing Afghanistan, (Sibghat Allah Mujaddidi), at the Mit Abu al-Kawm mosque--live]

[Excerpts] Muslims in many parts of the world are being subjected to interminable hostilities and calamities. What is currently happening in Afghanistan is far removed from humaneness and is at variance with human rights. We have come to you from the land of jihad [the land of struggle] to convey to you the call of the Mojahidin [the strugglers] the cry of the widows and orphans, the wounded and the sick; the cry of youths and old people who have lost their husands and sons, their fathers and mothers; whose houses have been destroyed; whose farms and orchards have been burned down; the cry of those who were killed, those who were tortured and those who have been imprisoned and those who have been displaced.

The number of those who have sought refuge in Pakistan, Iran and other countries exceeds 2 million. Some of them are living in the open--and they are many. They are complaining about the harsh weather conditions--the heat of the sun and the cold of winter.

Oh Muslims! The Islamic Afghan people--your brothers and sisters have stood as one against the communist rule and the Russian invasion of the pure land of Afghanistan. With the help of God--praise be to his name--they have stood up as a sweeping and vicious force and have promised God--glory be to his name--not to lay down their arms until God grants them victory, until the last Russian soldier leaves Afghanistan and until an Islamic government is established.

These mojahidin will not deterred by the utterances of those who reproach them and will never be afraid of the brutal Russian forces and their enormous material capabilities represented by arms and ammunition. Your struggling brothers are equipped by the weapons of faith and creed.

Oh beloved brothers: It is a well-known fact that, by invading Afghanistan, Russia aims at reaching the warm waters [of the Arab Gulf], at encircling the Gulf and the oil countries, then at liquidating the entire Islamic world--God forbid. The war between us and them has been planned for more than a century. Our battle is one between atheism and Islam. Now, will the Islamic world awaken from its deep slumber and perpetual oversights and will it began to think of saving itself from destruction and annihilation?

Afghanistan is a strong bastion and an inaccessible dam against the Russian infiltration into the Islamic world. Should Islamic Afghanistan be liquidated--God forbid--and should atheist Russia cast anchor there, the Islamic world, nay, the whole world, will be finished.

Oh Muslims! You are aware that our fraternal Egypt has stood by us courageously, clearly and strongly with its people and government under the leadership of its believing president struggler Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. Egypt has supported your believing and struggling Afghan brothers. It has supported their issue politically, economically and financially as well as by giving arms and ammunition. The Egyptian Government--by the inspired directives of His Excellency President as-Sadat--has designated a week of solidarity with the Afghan mujahidin--a week in which the Egyptian people will stand by their brothers the people of Afghanistan. May God repay them generously.

As-Sadat Military Aid Pledge

NC262200 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2007 GMT 26 Dec 80

[From "The World On the Air" program: statement by President Anwar as-Sadat to a delegation of Afghan mujahedin in his house in the village of Mit Abu al-Kawm on 26 December--recorded]

[Text] All that I want to tell you can be summed up in a few words: Carry on your battle according to your potentials because the battle needs perseverance. At the same time, I pray to God that you will be able to gather all the resistance [groups] in one framework on which you will all agree. I hope the day will come when an Afghan government will be formed that will represent all the parties and speak on their behalf. The formation of such a government is very important for the struggle. When we declared the provisional Algerian Government here in Cairo, the foreigners laughed at us. However, after few years that government carried out negotiations with France. [words indistinct]

My advice to you is that you keep away from Arab and Islamic differences; do not get involved in these differences. The PLO committed a strategic and historic mistake when it involved itself in Arab differences. Since that day, they have been at a total loss. While you are engaged in your present struggle, I hope that you will not involve yourselves in Arabic or Islamic differences. Define your attitude in the light of each state's attitude toward you.

The circumstances of some brothers might not allow them to offer anything; these are excused. However, those who can must offer something. As far as Egypt is concerned, I thank God that I an tell you that as far as weapons are concerned, which is a vital and basic aspect--especially the antitank and antiaircraft weapons--Egypt pledges [to supply you with these weapons]. As Egypt has sent them to you in the past, Egypt will also send them in the future. If you wish that your sons should come for training here and anywhere else, we are ready for this.

Yesterday, I spoke to the people on the occasion of my birthday. I called on them to donate all that they can to the Afghan people, especially clothes and blankets. As you know, I visited your country and I spent some time there. I know that the weather is very difficult there. In summer, it is cold; so how about winter.

I saw the refugees and the mujahidin, their destroyed villages, the women, children and the mosques. I saw this. For this reason, I asked every Egyptian to help the Afghan people, exactly as happened during the days of the Muhajirin and Al-Ansar [followers of Prophet Muhammad]. We must share whatever we have with the people of Afghanistan.

God willing, Egypt will contribute whatever it can during the solidarity week [to be held in Egypt in support of the Afghan people]. We are not rich like others. However, we feel that with our creed, faith and brotherhood we are very rich. We will share with you what we have; we will equally share everything--clothing, weapons, money and food.

Inform our brothers in Afghanistan about this. Be prepared for a long protracted war. Do your best to gather the Afghan resistance. I will be very pleased when I hear that you have agreed on forming a provisional government because this is the sound course. Since 1972, I have been urging the Palestinians to form a provisional government. Had they formed this government, this government would have been recognized following the 1973 war. But, this is up to you. However, this must not prevent anyone in the Arab and Islamic worlds from giving aid to you. Everyone should give according to his capabilities. It is treason if any one of us should support Russia against Afghanistan; this is treason which we cannot accept.

We do not want the others to give more than they can afford. As I told you, you will find Egypt as a brother who stands with you and with your struggle no matter how long it will last.

As-Sadat Solidarity Message

NC271611 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1340 GMT 27 Dec 80

["Text" of President Anwar as-Sadat's message on the solidarity week with the Afghan people held by the Islamic and Arab Peoples League in Cairo--read by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate, the struggling Afghan leaders, brothers and sisters, brother Muslims and Arabs, free men everywhere:

Last year at this time, on the eve of Christmas as the call for peace was filling ears and hearts and after 53 days of Iranian Government defiance of Islamic law and international legality and aggression regarding the U.S. hostages, who were taken hostage in their embassy in Tehran; and after several Soviet adventures in Africa, the Arab homeland, the Far East, East Europe and Latin America--after all of this came the Soviet invasion of the Islamic Afghan homeland, which is a member of the Islamic group, the United Nations, the nonaligned movement and the Afro-Asian group.

This invasion represents an attempt by one of the two superpowers to take humanity at the age of decolonization and liquidation of racism back to the time of defunct colonialist invasions. It also represents an attempt to turn from masked invasion, through agents and tools, to blatant invasion, defying international and national laws and human and holy values.

It was no coincidence that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was followed by the Iraqi-Iranian war, the threat to attack Poland, the Soviet-Libyan invasion of Chad and the Syrian escalation of the deterioration in Lebanon.

Brothers and sisters: The Soviets previously launched invasions in Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968 and others before the end of World War II. The Soviet Union was disguising this in communist solidarity among the Eastern Bloc members. The people used to believe that Soviet invasion ended with the adoption of a policy of international detente and the signing of SALT I and SALT II and the Helsinki Agreement, which is based on respect for basic human rights and the right of people to independence and national sovereignty. However, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has revealed all the masks, foiled all pretexts and imposed on all Muslims the task of complete political and material solidarity with the heroic Afghan strugglers.

With this religious and national commitment, Egypt supports the Afghan struggle and receives its leaders today in Cairo, a bastion of Islam and a stronghold of Arabism, and convenes the week of Egyptian solidarity with the Afghan people. Egypt calls on the world to mark this day, with its painful reminiscence, an international day of solidarity with the Afghan people.

Brothers and sisters: In the name of Islam, which combined us in the faith in the people's freedom and man's pride, in fraternity, justice and equality, and in the name of the Egyptian people, who struggled throughout their noble history for a just peace and humane civilization, resisted invaders and aggressors and worked sincerely to uphold Islam and Arabism, and in the name of Egyptian-Afghan solidarity, I greet the Afghan strugglers and announce Cairo's pride in the visit of the heroic Afghan leaders and in being priviledged with this honor in which the Egyptian people, government and president are proud and boast about before all nations and all people. [applause]

What honor is greater than receiving these heroic strugglers to whom these words of God apply: Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with God: Of them some have completed their vow, and some wait: But they have never changed in the least: And the words: He who is true in his promise to God, God fulfills his promise and bestows on him dignity and victory.

Brothers and sisters, God is a testimony that Egypt has performed its duty. I also ask God and you to witness that Egypt is determined to double its sacrifices and support until freedom is upheld, the will of man triumphs and the brave Afghan people regain their full freedom and establish their national regime with their own independent will. [applause]

Our support for the Afghan struggle for freedom is based on lofty principles in which we believe, as well as on firm foundations of the past and present, common interests and growing aspirations in the future. We and the Afghan people are linked by Islam's firm bonds which will never be divorced. Both of us believe in Islam's holy principles of man's pride, freedom for people and resistance to all forms of aggression.

When the modern united Afghanistan was established in the 18th century, it strenghened its close relations with the Muslims in general and the Egyptians in particular. The Afghans in the illustrious Al-Azhar were side by side with the Egyptians resisting the foreign imperialist invasions. When the Third World was plunging in deep stagnation and surrender in the 18th century, Egypt led the Islamic awakening movement. In the 19th century, some Afghan strugglers together with Egyptian leaders led the movement from Egypt. Acts of resistance against British imperialism took place in Egypt and Afghanistan at the same time. In 1884, the joint Egyptian-Afghan resistance established the Close Link [Al-'Urwati Al-Wuthqa] Movement. The policy of the movement's newspaper was managed by Imam Jamal ad-Din al-Afghani and the paper's chief editor was the Egyptian, Imam Muhammad 'Abduh. The Egyptian and Afghan imams spread the Islamic and freedom call in the world, and threatened the primary colonial power at the time. This colonial power saw in their call a threat to India, which it was colonizing and which it called the pearl of the British crown. It prevented the entry of the free Egyptian newspaper into India and the rest of the Asian and African colonies. Then it dealt with the paper at its source, Cairo, and prevented it from being published. The newspaper stopped appearing after only 18 editions. However, its call could not be concealed and its effects could not be stopped.

Thus, the believing popular movement threatened the primary world power. This is one of the objectives which we must pursue today. This objective has become more urgent in order to confront the current aggressive challengers, to stop the destructive wars among the Muslims, and to hope for a more dignified presence and better future.

Since the establishment of the United Nations, some 35 years ago, the means of Islamic cooperation between Egypt and Afghanistan have grown stronger. Afghanistan supported the issues of Arab liberation to the same degree as the Arab states or even more; when Egypt, in 1950, supported the establishment of the Palestinian Arab government to confront the establishment of Israel, the seven Arab states at the time, apart from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, recognized it, and none of the non-Arab states recognized it apart from the Afghan state. The free Islamic Afghan government continued to foster the Arab resolutions at the United Nations and continued to submit them in its name alone when the Arabs requested that.

When the tripartite aggression took place against Egypt in 1956, a general volunteer movement took place in Afghanistan to resist the aggression. Funds were collected to support the Egyptian war effort; women donated their jewelry. This was the height of Afghan-Egyptian solidarity. [applause]

When Egypt changed the face of history in the area and stunned the world with its glorious victory in 1973, this was a national day for the Afghan people. The Afghan people were a strength for Egypt, both in war and in peace.

Today, in order to fortify our new era--the era of peace, freedom and development--we must support the Afghan struggle movement for liberation. The cause of freedom is the same and indivisible in our area and even in the whole world. The Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan for the past year threatens the security of the whole Gulf and the rest of the Middle East. It similarly threatens our security and lays on us, by virtue of our historic responsibilities, a national, nationalist and religious duty.

The steps taken by the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, which ended with its military invasion, today threaten the peoples of Syria, Libya, Yemen, PDRY and Chad, and lays on the Gulf states, the Arabian Peninsula, and the Red Sea area, as well as the whole Arab area and the rest of the Islamic world, the responsibility for collective confrontation and resistance and effective joint action.

When we support the Afghan struggle, we do not fight the Soviet Union: we defend our security and our interests. Furthermore, we abide by the tenets of Islam and the ethics of Arabism. We also continue to take the steps that we had begun to take a long time ago and we pursue a policy whose principles were laid down and whose rules were upheld in the past 10 years.

Brothers and sisters: no transient or special dispute exists between us and the Soviet Union. However, the dispute between us is one of a general character over principles. The reason is that we want international relations to be based on mutual respect and equal cooperation. We also advocate the abandonment of the policy of invasion, hegemony and containment. Furthermore, we believe that the security and freedom of the Arab homeland and the Islamic world derives from Egypt's security and freedom. We also believe that the cause of Islamic-Arab freedom is one and indivisible.

For the above reasons, we have always emphasized our readiness to come to the aid of any Arab or Islamic state subjected to aggression or to threats of aggression. Our policy has always furnished proof of the truthfulness of our words and of the sincerity of our actions. This is because the Arab homeland and the Islamic world uphold the same principles. Our interests are the same and our national, nationalist [qawmiyah] and religious commitments are the same.

Had the Soviet Union withdrawn from Afghanistan; had it abandoned its ambitions in the Gulf and its interference in Syria, the PDRY, Libya, Chad and other countries; and had it based its relations with us and with the other Arabs and Muslims on the principles of just peace, mutual respect and free and equal cooperation, we would have been the first to welcome the establishment of the best relations with the Soviet Union.

Egypt opened to the Soviet Union the door to diplomatic representation with the Arab countries in the wake of World War II. The tripartite aggression against Egypt made the Soviet presence in the Mediterranean possible. The aggression launched against Egypt in 1967 enabled the Soviet Union to penetrate the Middle East.

Egypt ousted the Soviet Union from its country in 1972, after the Soviet Union had thought that it was invincible. [applause] It was also Egypt that opened the doors to the Soviet Union's exit from other countries in our area.

If the Soviet Union insists on pursuing a policy of imperialist conquest and illicit intervention in the Middle East and in the Arab and Islamic fateful causes, then I will have no doubt that it will be met with a collective and efficacious resistance. Nor will I doubt that, ultimately, the Soviet Union will suffer the fate of the ancient empires which depended on the policy of force and tyranny.

Brother Muslims and Arabs: The events which have taken place in the Arab and Islamic countries deserve our attention as well as our joint, effective action. The tragedy of Afghanistan is the worst of omens.

Had Egypt not taken its firm stand of ending the Soviet presence in its territory in 1972, it wouldn't have achieved victory in the 1973 war and the advance toward peace in 1977. [applause]

It is now imperative for us to shoulder a joint responsibility--and there is no escape from shouldering this responsibility or bearing the brunt of backwardness and its plights. Responsibility might devolve on the United States, Western Europe and their allies. However, the greatest responsibility and the greatest harm will befall us, we, the Arabs and Muslims. No one will help those who do not help themselves.

Had the Arabs not been defeating themselves at the hands of some of them, we would have achieved a just and comprehensive peace; we would have recovered the Palestinian people's national rights; we would have rid our area of the factors of war and destruction; and we would have pooled our resources to build the epoch of peace, freedom and development and to occupy our prestigious position in our greater homeland and throughout the whole world.

Oh Afghan strugglers: The national duty calls on you to close your ranks, unify your organizations and establish a free unified government which the Muslims and Arabs and free countries in the world will recognize. Such a government will support your armed struggle and will bring closer the dawn of freedom for your dear fraternal country.

Oh Muslim and Arab brothers: what happened in Afghanistan deserves your solidarity in order to stave it off and at the same time to ward off what is happening now in certain Islamic and Arabic countries that portends that things there will end up the same as the Soviet colonialist attempts ended in Afghanistan.

Since the end of World War II the Soviet Union has been active in establishing centers in Afghanistan. It incited hostilities and hatred between Afghanistan and its fraternal Muslim neighbor, Pakistan. It also prompted the Afghan Government to ask for Soviet arms, under the pretext of resisting Pakistani threats, and to send military missions to the Soviet Union and to give it preferential economic and trade relations.

The Soviets then went ahead to establish agent communist parties that were able to overthrow the Afghan regime on 27 April 1978. Things ended with the aggravating Soviet invasion of the past 12 months. This invasion turned the Afghan people into strugglers and millions of Afghans were affected. Those who were killed and injured, the widows, orphans and refugees.

Oh brothers and sisters, Egypt feels dutybound to urge all Arabs and Muslims to enhance their solidarity in support of the holy national struggle of the Afghan people. Egypt also feels dutybound to urge the Arabs and Muslims to abandon their differences, to stop hostilities among themselves and to unify their ranks. Egypt appeals to all Arabs and Muslims to act as a single front to ward off the dangers threatening their countries and the countries of the area with which they were linked in the past and will be linked in the future.

Egypt's strength and greatness is increased by the favorable response to its call shown by the enlightened sincere people. But Egypt is not harmed by the disregard of the agents and those led by others. The Islamic and Arab Peoples League was established for this sublime aim. The dear Sudanese people cooperated with the Egyptian people in the preliminary work to establish this league. Egypt's call received great support from sincere friends; and great anger from greedy enemies. The first of the four bureaus Egypt established was the Afghanistan bureau.

Let us free ourselves from our weakness, disunity and the interference and greed of others. Let us support the Afghan struggle for freedom and stand in one line to support it until complete victory. Then God will bestow on us victory in Afghanistan, the rights of the Palestinians will return to them, the Chadian people will triumph, the reckless war in Iran and Iraq will end and we will work together to build a new era, an era of a just peace, security and economic and social progress.

Let us fulfill God Almighty when he says: Go ye forth, lightly or heavily, and strive and struggle, with your goods and your persons, in the cause of God.

Let us the believers to whom these words of God apply: God hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods; for theirs is the garden of paradise; they fight in his cause, and slay and are slain: A promise binding on him in truth, through the law, the gospel, and the Koran; and who is more faithful to his covenant than God?

Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded; that is the achievement supreme.

And the words of the faithful Prophet Muhammad: The believers are so intimate and compassionate among themselves like the human body, if one organ of the body suffered any ailment, the whole body suffers.

And the prophet's saying: He who helped equip a fighter for the cause of God, is a fighter; and he who produces a fighter, is like a fighter.

Brothers and sisters, a greeting to the leaders of the Afghan struggle in their holy war. Greetings to every Arab and Muslim who supports the Afghan struggle as much as he can. Greetings to them, to us and to the whole world when their struggle triumphs and the banners of peace and freedom are hoisted in Afghanistan and over all Arab and Islamic countries. God will not withhold this from us. May God's peace and blessing be upon you.

Resistance Leader's Addresses

NC281929 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1247 GMT on 27 December carries a 63-minute recording of the proceedings of the 27 December opening session of the conference being held in Cairo by the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples on the occasion of the week of solidarity with the people of Afghanistan in their struggle against the Soviet invasion of their country.

In addition to As-Sadat's message, the recording includes a 17-minute speech by Ahmad al-Gilani, chairman of the Afghan Islamic National Front, who describes the plight of the Muslim people in Afghanistan, saying that they "are resisting a sanguinary and cunning enemy." He adds that "It is impossible to accept the unjust tyrannical aggression" and that the people "are being tortured mentally and physically and are thrown in prisons for no reason." He promises that the Afghan people will continue their struggle, "depending on God and on their love for the independence of their homeland and its freedom" until the last man and until the "occupiers and the plotters are thrown out." He then goes on to praise the struggle of the Afghan people and stresses their faith in Islam. He also promises to work for strengthening the bonds of unity to cover all Afghanistan so that everybody may participate in this "sacred battle in which we defend our religion, sanctities and honor" through the establishment of "a unified organization that would lead the struggle and bolster it to reach its military and political goals." Concerning the political action in the world, he says it will seek to "exert pressure on the Soviet enemy to leave our country and enable our people to exercise their right for self-determination without outside pressure or interference." He then warns the Islamic peoples that "if our struggle is harmed, God forbid, then the danger would not be far from all the states in the region and our ferocious enemy will find the way open to other countries. He finally welcomes the UN and Islamic resolutions on Afghanistan hoping that his people will not be left alone and extends his gratitude to Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states for their aid and his profound gratitude to President as-Sadat and the Egyptian people for their stand and support.

In his 14-minute recorded speech (Ash-Shaykh Muhammad ibn Muhammadi), chairman of the Afghan Islamic Coup Movement, thanks President as-Sadat for providing the opportunity for this meeting. He explains that the Afghan strugglers are not fighting for their land alone "but for the sake of their creed and faith." He adds that they fight "with the weapons of faith and creed and trust in God." He says that the strugglers have decided either "to die and become martyrs" or "liberate Muslim Afghanistan from the communist infidel and atheist force." He then describes the courage of the strugglers saying that they have taught the contemporary world a lesson in "struggle, courage and heroism." He then explains the attitude of the various states toward Afghanistan, saying "what a pity that the Islamic states did not rise to the level of their responsibility to God, his messenger and history and failed to carry out their faith and Islamic duty, and disregarded the orders of God, as though ignorant of them. He stresses that the Afghan strugglers do not fight for their land only but also fight for the sake of God and their religion. He adds that the Soviet communist force is not only the enemy of Afghanistan but the "enemy of Islam in the first place and the enemy of man, mankind and humans and humanity in the second place." He adds that this treacherous and oppressive force attacked Afghanistan for no legitimate right and in violation of international law. The Afghan struggle, he goes on, "is actually a defense of all Muslims and even all the world states advocating security, peace and conciliation." He then urges the Muslims to wake up and rise to their faith and political responsibilities by standing alongside their brother Afghan strugglers. He then asks the Muslims whether they have not heard about the horrible Soviet atrocities in Afghanistan and whether they have not heard the wailing of the widows, children and aged people, and expresses his sorrow for the state of affairs of the Muslims. He says that very few Islamic and non-Muslim states have risen to the level of their responsibilities. He excepts Egypt, invoking God's protection for its government and people. He also praises President as-Sadat who carried out his Islamic duty toward the Afghan people.

In his 6-minute recorded speech Ash-Shaykh Mohammad Yunis Khalis, chairman of the Afghan Islamic Party, extends to the audience the greetings of Islamic fraternity in the name of the Afghan fighters and urges the Muslims everywhere to "stand with us in order to liberate the Muslims of Afghanistan and all the enslaved Muslims in the world."

He then describes the Soviet atrocities in Afghanistan, saying that they are committed because "we say God is our lord" and because we seek to spread freedom and end slavery. In conclusion he thanks Egypt for the invitation to this meeting of solidarity with Afghanistan and wishes success for the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples.

Action on Aid

NC271652 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] The Islamic and Arab Peoples League has decided to send prompt aid to the Afghan strugglers and to demand that the Islamic and Arab countries sever diplomatic relations with the agent Afghan Government.

The league called on the Third World countries to take positive measures to end the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and to increase their condemnation of this invasion at all international forums.

This was contained in the resolutions adopted by the Islamic and Arab Peoples League at its extraordinary meeting today. The league called on the Afghan strugglers to unify their organizations in one body.

The league also called on the United Nations, the United States, Western European countries and the PRC to implement the resolutions on ending the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS BURIAL OF LIBYANS KILLED IN CHAD

NC271248 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2214 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 27 Dec (MENA)—In its Sunday edition, the newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that the secret behind the closure of Libya's Benghazi Airport to international flights for 3 successive days was the arrival at the airport of three Soviet military transport planes. Each plane carried 520 shrouds, each containing the body of a Libyan soldier killed in Chad.

The paper says that the Libyans gathered into crowds upon learning of the arrival of some dead soldiers from Chad, which forced the airport commander to announce that these bodies were those of Cuban and East German soldiers. Meanwhile, the Libyan military police imposed a total blackout on Benghazi so that Al-Qadhdhafi's order--that these bodies be buried in a mass grave out of fear of the Libyan people's anger--could be carried out.

The paper adds that several demonstrations were staged throughout the Libyan provinces, while the tribes grouped to denounce the airport commander's announcement that the dead were Cuban and East German soldiers. The reason for these demonstrations and groupings was the fact that the residents followed the vehicles which transported the bodies to a Muslim cemetery for burial.

Furthermore, the Libyan tribes held large rallies at which they asked Al-Qadhdhafi's tribe to pay the price for the blood of their sons. The tribes also demanded that Al-Qadhdhafi step down and they decided to appeal to all the officers and soldiers to leave the army and return to their homes.

COMMUNIST COUP ATTEMPT REPORTEDLY FOILED IN IRAQ

NC271831 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Dec (MENA)--Well-informed sources in the Iraqi capital have disclosed that an unsuccessful coup attempt took place on the night of the 9th and on the morning of the 10th of December.

The attempt began with the distribution of hundreds of thousands of leaflets calling for overthrow of the regime headed by Saddam Husayn.

These sources say that the leaflets, which were thrown from a large number of cars in the streets of Baghdad, were aimed at instigating and arousing the people against the rule of Saddam Husayn as a direct prelude to a coup attempt, which had already been prepared among the ranks of the armed forces. However, the security authority [forces] and the Ba'th Party militia quickly took to the streets of the capital, collected these leaflets, and immediately proceeded to the military barracks to discover the preparedness of the forces which were to participate in the coup and to apprehend their commanders.

In providing further clarifications, the well-informed sources add that the contents of the leaflets, the style in which they were written and their accusation of Saddam Husayn of being a member of the U.S. intelligence points to the fact that the coup had been masterminded by the Communist Party.

YEMENI NATIONALISTS QUOTED ON PDRY TROOPS ABROAD

NC231615 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 23 Dec (MENA)--Sources of the National Grouping of South Yemen's Patriotic Forces confirmed today that Southern Yemen has sent some armed forces and militia to Chad to participate in the civil war there, foment trouble and carry out subversive actions on the side of foreign troops there.

The same sources said that a number of South Yemen's experts on guerrilla warfare as well as units from the armed forces are now in Ethiopia to help Ethiopia in its war against the Etritrean and Somali liberation movements while similar units are in Afghanistan fighting the men of the Afghan islamic revolution and supporting the aggressive Soviet forces backing the communist regime in Afghanistan.

PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESSES CABINET 24 DEC

JN251826 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Dec 80

["Text" of President Saddam Husayn's speech at 24 Dec cabinet meeting.]

[Text] Brothers: As we have said, the possibility of a war was strong before 4 September, the day when the Iranian side attacked Iraqi cities, and before 22 September, the day when Iraq attacked the Iranian Army on a wide scale outside the international borders. To our minds the reason for this war, beyond the details we all already know, was that Iraq began to show a rise through history, and when Iraq rises it has a positive influence on the area generally and on the Arab homeland in particular. This was the case both before and after the advent of Islam. Iraq had remained in a stagnant position for more than 700 years, and then the July revolution came. These were 700 years of deterioration and stagnation in Iraq, during which Iraq remained outside its historic role and outside the national, pan-Arab and human course of history. The causes and factors for this are known. But when Iraq rises, it inevitably resumes its historic, national, pan-Arab and human role. This is confirmed when the philosophy that leads the rulers and the people moves in this direction clearly and unequivocally, when the philosophy is not just on the radio but applied in practice.

Construction is the most important factor that gives this philosophy its strength, and development comes in the forefront of construction. Therefore, you might say that one of the most important reasons for this war is to halt the development process in Iraq and, more comprehensively, to halt the process of construction, and not simply because Iraq has leftist ideologies. The war occurred to prevent Iraq from rising and from playing a distinctive national, pan-Arab and human role. This can only be achieved by through, outstanding construction. It has become clear that construction in this country is outstanding. Therefore, it became necessary to halt the process of construction, and before this it became necessary to halt the psychological process of arising, which every Iraqi has come to enjoy. Every Iraqi has come to realize and is acting on the basis of the fact that he is required to play a historic role in the sense I described. He has come to act through the awareness that he is capable of assuming this historic role.

All aspects of life clearly show that this is possible, whether through the people's solidarity within the process of social, economic, cultural and political construction, in the army or in civilian life in general. This answers one of the questions as to why the Iranian people rose against the shah [as received], while the officials, from the first day they assumed power, sought to portray the revolution as one that had risen against Iraq.

That was how we were before the July revolution. Our situation was in accord with the picture we've outlined. We stayed out of history for 712 years. The way we are now is what we became after the July revolution. The shame is not in this; the shame is to stay asleep for 712 years. To continue to sleep would be more shameful.

They also say that some circles which like to call themselves Arabs--and some of these circles claim that they are concerned about Iraq--say: You are the ones who signed the 1975 agreement, so why don't you consider it as a grounds for negotiations and why don't you readopt this agreement after the war? The answer to these circles is the same answer we gave in the first speech before the National Assembly; we say to them: Yes, it is true we are the ones who signed the 1975 agreement, according to which the Iranians gained legal rights under unnatural circumstances and under conditions we could not control. Under those circumstances, the Iranians employed military force against us, supported by Zionism and the Americans. This fact had become clear to all and not just to a group of Iraqis.

After the collapse of the agent leadership in Iraqi Kurdistan, all of the western papers began to talk about the direct links between the Americans and the Zionists on one hand and this leadership and its activities. As we told Idris al-Barzani--I do not remember the exact date, but I recall it was sometime in March and before 11 March, 1974--we at the National Assembly were trying to dissuade them, for they were attempting to extend the respite given for the application of the 11 March statement another year. We knew then that the proposed extension was intended to let them gather their forces and grasp the most appropriate conditions on the Arab, international and Iraqi levels, so they could reactivate matters against us and persuade our Kurdish people to suspect our seriousness on the basis of our establishing 11 March 1970 and 11 March 1974 as dates on which to begin application of what we agreed upon on 11 March 1970, namely self-rule in Iraqi Kurdistan. After we explained our situation on the international and domestic levels, outlined our links with the people, the situation of the army and its armament, the human role of the army, the general situation of the Iraqis and their outlook toward the new regime and toward the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; after we explained the Arab situation and our new status in detail; and after we explained the international situation and our new status in the world, we told Idris al-Barzani: We will defeat you. Among the most important things they were depending upon were the differences between us and Iran. The announced Iranian demand, regardless of the various intentions on the international level, is to allow the borderline to pass through the Taljug zone, which is in the middle of Shatt al-'Arab on our side.

We also told Idris al-Barzani: This water is as dear to us as is the land beneath the water. This land is part of Iraq and part of Iraq's national sovereignty. Every single grain of this soil and every drop of this water is dear to us, but what is more dear is the human being. This water has never been inhabited, so if we must, we can give it away. Yet, we cannot give away our land and people in the Kurdistan area and we will not let this area become a stage for agentry. Therefore, the balance will be disrupted and you will be forced to surrender. History will then hold you responsible for this action.

This is the text of the speech between Idris and myself. Idris is still living and he has spoken frequently after the 1975 collapse. We told him: You will say that Saddam is trying to influence you psychologically. I tell Idris: Say whatever you want for it is more important that we satisfy our consciences and explain to you how we are going to act and how we will feel content. We say this so some parties will not consider it as part of the framework of the secret strategic viewpoint. We are explaining this to you so you can recant your stands.

The Iraqis, Arabs and Kurds fought 12 months against the suspicious rift and offered sacrifices. The armed forces alone offered more than 16,000 martyrs and wounded and there were more than 60,000 casualties among the people and the armed forces. There were only three heavy missiles left in the air force and very few artillery shells as well for the artillery facing the Iranian 175-mm and 155-mm guns.

When we contacted our source of armament, the chief of staff signed a contract for 1,432 artillery shells. This is sufficient for half a day. Despite this the army and the people were fighting bravely. The army was nearing Galalah and Haj 'Umran on 6 March 1975 when Boumediene's initiative came, proposing that a meeting on the sidelines at the Algiers OPEC summit be held. We accepted this initiative. The [1975] agreement occurred under these circumstances. Had the Iranians been committed to this treaty as it was, we would not have opposed it. We might have given them a better chance over the land that comes under the agreement, part of the international borders and of our land. We might have given them another chance. But their behavior was clear to you. Their task changed from confrontation with the United States to antagonism toward Iraq, from hostility toward Zionism to hostility toward Iraq. They attack Zionism and the United States over the radio. What does this achieve? The important thing is actual deeds.

When we talk about the left, pan-Arabism and nationalism, we do as any other regime. There are some regimes that talk more than we about this subject. They say the Iraqis are rightists, and they themselves are leftists. Matters would have been simple had this been the case. But the people understand that Iraq is independent. Superpowers have interests here. International Zionism understands that Iraq is independent and that it is in the process of building. It understands that this building and this independence will be the center of the Arab nation's awakening. They tried various methods previously. This time they tried the method of the "turbaned one." No one interfered to regain our rights. We regained them ourselves.

We signed the agreement in 1975. In 1980 we crushed that agreement when Iran violated it totally in behavior and in declarations. Building is as important as preserving military victory. Building is important in the same spirit and the same [word indistinct]. You must work and build as if you were on the frontline, near Dezful, Ahvaz, Mehran and Qasr-e Shirin and with the same spirit, care and accuracy, because their goal is to destroy this construction. You note that the Zionists are now silent over the Iraqi atomic bomb. You recall their escalated statements after Khomeyni's ascendance about fear of the Iraqi atomic bomb. Two months before that these escalated reactions reached the point where they said they would not allow this bomb to see light. We sat and discussed when they would come, where they would attack and what weapons they would use. But it appeared that they made threats only to say later that they defeated the alleged Arab bomb with their superior force, because they are present everywhere and are able to start and wage wars. But they forgot that this scientific power was not given to us for the sake of our pretty eyes by anyone. This power was wrested by the Iraqis' capability, determination and resources. Those who can get one laboratory or reactor can get ten more. The immediate return sought by Zionism was the removal and eradication of the entire [Iraq] regime, so they would rest at ease.

Zionism sees, observes and realizes that the plan for liberation is found primarily in Iraq. Iraq also has another plan, which is not the military plan under discussion, the plan of liberation. Words do not explain who will triumph. The 22 September battle began a long time ago. It began on 30 July and on 17 July. It began with the sound preparation of the nation's vanguards, brick by brick. We have always said that nationalization is a peak to be reached, but not the final one. Our peaks are gradual and support one another on the way up, but their ultimate ceiling is level. The first peak is as high as the last, although the gradation makes one believe that one peak is lesser than another. However, they are all equal and one builds upon the other. Zionism knows better than anyone else the serious danger that Iraq poses to it, though it is not on the geographic frontline.

Continue building. Let the spirit of development continue with the same ardor. Let none of you feel that only the rifle expresses the nation's triumph. The rifle alone, without its support, spirit and other tributaries, cannot triumph. One of its most important tributaries is development and continuity in quality, quantity and spirit. Each minister should ask his under secretaries and directors general about the new methods he is creating, in light of the new spirit being experienced by the Iraqi people. However, we should keep in mind that those who remain alive reflect the advanced sacrifice made by the others. You should also remember that the martyrs are more generous than all of us. Since this valiant Iraqi soldier or officer is fighting with this spirit in defense of your honor, your future and your present lives, you are required to fight for building and construction in order to reimburse for the bill of blood that is being paid on the frontline with the enemy. Therefore, you will continue to owe if you do not exert extraordinary efforts and if your minds do not work overtime in accuracy and creativity.

On this occasion, we cannot forget the magnificent efforts exerted by the state institutions. This is the difference between our state and theirs. Everything requested by the army on the frontlines is immediately made available to it in various ways, thanks to the efforts of the Iraqis.

The Iraqis have begun to show creativity and improvisation in spare parts for sophisticated arms. Some of these parts have seen active service and others have been improved. In the field of information, you, other Iraqis, and some other Arabs and foreigners began to act and make statements as if the war erupted merely to assert our existence. They began to tell us: Enough, you have demonstrated that you can defeat Iran. Enough, go back to what you were; it is not a disgrace. The Iraqis have demonstrated that they can fight with honor and valor. However, the war did not erupt on this basis. It erupted to repulse an aggression against land that belongs to us. It began with aggression against our border posts and expanded on 4 September to include the towns and continued until 22 September to include the oil installations and to close Shatt al-'Arab, Iraq's only water outlet. Thus, this aggression against Baghdad, Al-Kut and Basra went beyond the international border and had to be faced.

This aggression had our northern areas as its target. As was explained to you by the chief of staff, the topography of these areas is known. It is rugged terrain which controls Iran's primary communications roads. Thus, they could prevent heavy transport from entering our international borders in preparation for an advance on the axes we have mentioned. The massing of their forces could not be otherwise explained. Before 12 September the entire Iranian commercial air fleet left for Pakistan. Pakistan officially admitted this and told us: If you also wish to send your planes, we have no objection. They closed their airspace, declared a state of general alert and took various other measures. Perhaps someone among you will ask us: Well, since we have defeated the Iranians and have proven to them that we are capable of confronting and damaging them, let's go back to our international borders, including Zayn al-Qaws, Sayf Sa'd and other areas that were in their hands and which we have wrested from them. The answer to this is this: Shatt al'Arab cannot be insured by the land border but by actual sovereignty over it. Further, if we withdraw and they appear on our borders and the dangerous axes open before them, this means that the eventuality they had been planning for becomes possible--they would surge forward along these axes to make us fight inside our territory and they would place Iraqi towns under the mercy of their artillery, just as is the case in Dezful, Ahvaz, Abadan and Gilan-e Gharb. We will never make such a mistake. In a state of war the military borders are these borders. Flexibility might dictate that we retreat in some regions and better circumstances might necessitate that we move forward in others. This situation in general is Iraq's correct military map in defense of its land and in its current state of war with Iran. After the enemy continued in his intransigence, we told our units in the north, which were on the international borders: Proceed to any outlet that puts you in a better position on the ground. In fact, 1 week ago, these units moved and crossed the international border deep into Iranian territory inside Iran's international border. Part of our units in the north, which were on the borders, are now inside Iran. Therefore, the map will move upward to the meeting point of the Iraqi-Iranian-Turkish border, until the Iranians recognize our rights and end the state of war, for any withdrawal would maintain the state of war and would place us in a bad position. As long as the war continues, the military borders are these borders. Any other situation, while the state of war continues, would be extremely harmful to Iraq and there is no guarantee.

Some brothers put forward plans suggesting that Iraq withdraw, retain Zayn al-Qaws and Sayf Sa'd and negotiate on Shatt al-'Arab with the Iranians. We told these brothers: Very well, who can guarantee that the Iranians would concede Shatt al-'Arab to us and that the units against which we are fighting from a good position in Karkheh, Mehran, Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb and other areas would not return, advance and shell Basra, Khanaqin and Zurbitiyah with artillery and then advance on open land? After all everything is possible on a front that is 1000 km long. We withdraw and meet where? In Mandali? Any area they cross would be on Iraqi territory. When they seize it, then we would be forced to start fighting this time to wrest this Iraqi territory, inch by inch, from their hands. That's why this is the suitable situation for the military map under the circumstances of war between Iraq and Iran.

Naturally, peaceful circumstances will be dealt with through a different logic and according to other bases, as we have explained on more than one occasion. We have frequently expressed our increased desire, especially now that it has become clear that the Iranians have lost militarily. The western papers, intelligence organs and agents among the Iranians were telling them that the longer the war lasts the more they would gain, because the Iraqis had based their plans on 3 days only, or a week at most. Just remember that the first speech was made a week after the outbreak of the war. Just imagine that when we told them: Come, maybe you have awakened and have come to your senses, take your land and give us ours. Imagine whether this caused them to worry and fear for the future, giving them the impression that the Iraqis are a people who make mountains out of molehills, just as they were some 712 years ago. Slumber is the condition of all peoples who do not recognize the Iraqis' rising. The Iraqi was in slumber some 712 years ago, but slumber is not the Iraqi's natural condition. Nowadays the Iraqi has begun to awaken from this slumber and his true qualities are showing. The Iraqi today is patient and does not become easily excited. The Iraqi today speaks in logical sequence, because he is not forced to raise his voice without reason. He is capable of explaining his viewpoint to others.

They said that the Iraqis are a people who make mountains out of molehills, that what they did would last only a week and that they would be defeated and retreat in the 2d week; then they said that the Iraqis might have planned for a whole month, so they would just wait for the 2d month; then they said that the Iraqis might have planned for the whole summer so they would just wait for the winter, and so on.

Still, how can we rejoice? If the war had not happened, each party would have restored its rights through logic and negotiations. But now since the war has begun, we will continue to fight. The blood of the martyrs is dear to us. Our announcements on their losses are less than the real losses inflicted on them. A day will come when this war will end and then you will know the real amount of their losses.

We did not want the war, but when it broke out it only gave new spirit to our people. Where else in the world can you find an old man who says: I offer my son as a sacrifice for you? This is said by the families of the martyrs and of the fighters. They do not say this because Saddam is a certain height. They really mean that they are ready to give sacrifices for the revolution. They express this through their cheers for Saddam. This is the Iraqis' new spirit. We are not wrong and we did not expect anything other than this spirit. Maybe when we talk so confidently and with high morale about the Iraqis, some of you think that we are wrong about the Iraqis, or that we are conceited.

I have heard some Iraqis say: You trust the Iraqis more than you should. You imagine them more capable than they actually are. However, it has been demonstrated that we sometimes imagined them to be less capable than they actually were. By all standards and measures, is there anything dearer than a son? What makes an old woman or a martyr's widow say: The important thing is that you be all right and keep your health? What makes a martyr's daughter come and tell us to look after ourselves? These are the Iraqis of whom you are a part. Some say: God willing, we will return victorious. Actually, we triumphed as of the first day. However, God willing, we will maintain the spirit of victory and not the victory alone. Victory, military victory, has been assured. One army attacked a second army and defeated it and is advancing inside enemy territory. It's over. This victory was scored on 28 and 29 September. The Iraqi Army scored most of its objectives on 28 September.

The big powers are trying to rob you of your spirit of victory. Some friend or other proposed a plan and said: There is no victor and no vanquished. I told him: What do you mean, there is no victor and no vanquished? Facts and reality say that there is a victor and a vanquished. Or are you trying to say that in order to have a balance, we should withdraw, coy with the Iranians and be defeated by them in order to have exchanges? You see, it is very hard for them to see the Iraqis retaining their spirit of victory, because when the Iraqis retain their spirit of victory, the entire nation awakes.

These are the Iraqis as you see them. I do not believe that there is anyone left who works at his old capacity. He who carried 1 kgm now carries 10 kgm. He who stayed awake for 2 hours now does so for 10 hours, without growing tired. By staying awake, I do not mean in useless places, as is the case with other peoples who do not have objectives in life.

As soon as the enemy proclaims something, others begin to beat the drums for him. However, some of these drums have begun to fall silent. As comrade Hasan has said, they beat the drums until they punctured them. They say the Iranians have begun to exhaust the Iraqis. How can they exhaust the Iraqis? Is As-Sulaymaniyah under the mercy of their artillery? Are Baghdad, Al-Kut and Diyala under their mercy to be hit with their artillery? Who is exhausting whom? We are exhausting them. It is our artillery that is pounding Dezful, Ahvaz and Abadan. This is their state of affairs. We are very patient. They emerge, bang their heads against this iron wall and break them by hundreds day after day.

Yes, the Iraqis are losing innocent martyrs. However, they would have lost martyrs many times over had the Iranians been in a different position and inside Iraqi territory. No nation can live in glory without martyrs. No people can have a proud history without martyrs.

A long war exhausts the Iranians economically, psychologically, politically and demographically. A long war makes Iran subject to sharing and division. Iraq, however, is not subject to division.

You read and listen to radios carrying reports on the Iranians' plan and how they are advancing from the Kurdistan area, assuming that the Kurds are not for our regime. This is what the Zionist circles keep repeating after 4 months of war. However, we have crossed into the Iranians' territories from the Kurdistan area. And there are, at times, some phenomena that attract our attention. Among these, for example, is that when I meet with the martyrs' families, I discover that the highest number of martyrs come from families whose social and economic conditions had been improved by the revolution. I also find that the highest number of martyrs is among those unruly NCO's. So when the war came, this sea of people started to employ their potentials and to sacrifice more than others.

Another phenomenon is the rate of absences in the army. Absences among the Kurdish soldiers. under any difficult circumstances, are almost nonexistant when compared with the rate of absences among the Arab soldiers. The number of Kurds who are now under arms in the people's army is 17,000 fighters. They are Iraqi Kurds who are in Kurdistan, the self-rule region, and not in Baghdad. We gave them everything: guns, arms, rocket launchers and antiaircraft weapons. This is in addition to the Kurds who are lining up to contribute cash.

We have crossed into the Iranians' territories after 4 months of war. [Words indistinct] would it be better if they come to Al-Kut, thus placing the children of Al-Kut and Basra under their mercy? It is better to keep things as they are now, as long as they like this plan. We will continue as we are.

He who thinks that he can force a cordon around Iraq hereafter is beset with illusions. No one can ever force a cordon around Iraq, politically, militarily or in any area of capabilities. As long as Iraqis exist, they will continue to be the pillars of wealth. They are the basic foundations of the army, glory and of everything else.

If we cannot obtain weapons from one source, we will obtain them from another; and if we cannot get a good kind from one source we will get it from another. We will do all of this with Iraq's capabilities and wealth and because of Iraq's status. We will get this with the wealth of the Iraqis, which we realize with our sweat. The Iraqis' wealth did not come freely. We were not given this wealth; no one ever gave the Iraqis an easy opportunity. It was the Iraqis who took the opportunity at a time when others were being offered many opportunities. This is victory. This is the spirit of victory. Preserve it, because there are many schemers roving around you who are trying to seize your spirit of victory.

Prove to them through patience, action, sacrifice and persistence that you can preserve the spirit of victory, this spirit that supplies human beings with new power and that makes the children whom you saw at the elementary school yesterday express their desire to go to the battlefront. I am sure that if those children were given guns they would go to the battlefront. This is what is now being sought, especially since the war has become a fact.

What is required is to preserve this spirit, because they want to kill this rising spirit. They want to extinguish this rising spirit in the Iraqi so that he will go back to sleep, and then the whole nation would lose an important opportunity. So you have to consider this spirit as your honor and conscience. This spirit is your existence, the existence of your children and that of your coming generations. This spirit is your glorious history and your most cherished sanctities.

TARIQ 'AZIZ: WAR COULD BE CONTINUED INDEFINITELY

LD241117 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Dec 80 p 6

["E.R." report: "Visiting Paris: The Iraqi Vice Chairman Gives Assurances That Baghdad Could 'Continue Indefinitely' the War Against Iran"]

[Text] On his way back from Havana, where he attended the Cuban Communist Party congress, Mr Tariq 'Aziz, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Council, arrived in Paris on Monday 22 December, and was to have talks with Mr Jean Francois-Poncet on Tuesday. In his two previous meetings with President Giscard d'Estaing--on 25 September and 5 November--Mr 'Aziz mentioned various formulas which could lead to a settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The Iraqi vice chairman expressed profound skepticism in this respect during a rambling conversation with journalists on Monday evening. "All our attempts to settle our conflict with Tehran peacefully have failed," he stated, "and we now think the war could be a long one. Since the start of hostilities the other side has proposed absolutely nothing except the overthrow of the Iraqi regime. Anarchy and a lack of realism prevail in Tehran. If there were a reasonable government there, it would have agreed to open talks to settle our differences." But is it conceivable that an Iranian Government, whatever its composition, could agree to negotiate while foreign troops are on its territory? The Iraqi vice chairman did not hesitate to reply in the affirmative. It would not be the first or the last time, he said, that a war had finished in that way. Mr 'Aziz is surprised that certain powers are demanding the withdrawal of Iraqi troops beforehand, while they regard it as "normal" for the Arabs to hold talks with Israel, an occupying power.

The Iraqi vice chairman sums up the Baghdad government's aims in the war: the return--to Iraq on the one hand and to the Arabs on the other--of the territories which Iran seized from them at the height of its power. The three small islands in the Gulf must be returned to the United Arab Emirates, and the whole of the Shatt al-'Arab estuary to Iraq. Baghdad would also like to reach an agreement with Tehran to put an end to "Khomeynist expansionism."

Mr Tariq 'Aziz freely admitted that his government is giving multifaceted assistance--mainly political, but also military--to national minorities in Iran for their autonomy. In particular he named the Kurds and the Arabic speakers, who, he said, should have the means of determining their own future as they wish. Is not this a case of interference in another country's internal affairs? The Iraqi vice chairman replied that Baghdad's support for the Iranian minorities would stop as soon as Tehran gave up trying to export its revolution to Iraq.

Mr Tariq 'Aziz objected to press commentaries according to which Iraq has suffered a military defeat. "We achieved all our goals on the ground on 28 September, and our army has no intention of going further," he stated, adding: "The Iranians, who were provoking daily border incidents, have been engaged for months in a war of attrition; we simply decided to pursue that war on their territory. We have the economic, financial and military resources to continue it indefinitely. The chief loser can only be Iran."

Mr Tariq 'Aziz confirmed that the USSR stopped arms deliveries to Iraq at the start of the war, adding that this lapse will have "no impact" on Iraq's military capabilities.

"We are setting an example to the whole Third World, where many governments think they can only ensure their own defense by relying on one or other of the great powers. We have been able to diversify our sources of supply and create our own military industries." Mr 'Aziz noted, on this score, that French arms deliveries are continuing "as normal."

The Iraqi vice chairman denied that his country's relations with the USSR have deteriorated because of the stoppage in arms deliveries from Moscow. He pointed out that Iraq pursues an "open and reasonable" foreign policy with respect to all states, whatever their sociopolitical system. "In this way we have established a broad network of cordial relations--with the socialist countries, the Western powers, the Third World states," he stated, "since we have a wise political leadership which knows how to make use of these relations for the sake of the national interest."

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 189

JN241659 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Communique No 189 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 24 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continued their activities in their operational sectors yesterday evening and today. The results of these activities are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel:

1. Two were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
2. Yesterday evening, one of our combat patrols clashed with an enemy patrol in the Dezful sector and killed 10 of its elements. The rest took to their heels.
3. Our advanced units in the Shush region in the Dezful sector opened fire on enemy troop concentrations and forced them to flee, leaving behind seven dead.
4. Our forces ambushed an enemy force in the Ahvaz region and forced it to retreat after it sustained six killed.
5. Three were killed in the Abadan region. Accordingly, known enemy losses in lives totals 28 dead.

B. In equipment:

1. The following equipment was destroyed: one personnel carrier; four vehicles, one of which was loaded with personnel; two observation posts; and one stockpile of ammunition.
2. Some intact medium weapons and communication equipment were seized in the Dezful sector.

C. Yesterday evening, some enemy naval vessels tried to approach the head of Bisheh in Shatt al-'Arab. Our naval forces confronted them, destroying and sinking two gunboats, one of which was laden with military equipment. Strong explosions were heard upon its destruction. In addition, two other sea targets were destroyed and sunk in the same areas.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: The following equipment was destroyed; three personnel carriers, six vehicles, one mortar and one steamshovel.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 December 1980.

Communique No 190

JN251731 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1704 GMT 25 Dec 80

[Communique No 190 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continue to consolidate their control over their operational sectors. The outcome of their activities last night and today is as follows:

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses in personnel:

1. An enemy force was sighted approaching our forward units' positions in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. It was intercepted with various weapons and forced to flee after leaving behind 30 dead.
2. Our forward units in the Mehran area opened light weapon and artillery fire on a group of enemy personnel killing 11 and forcing the rest ro flee.
3. Last night one of our combat patrols in the Dezful sector clashed with an enemy patrol, killing 10 and forcing the rest to flee.
4. Two killed in the Shush area.
5. Three killed in the Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] area.
6. Five killed in the Ahvaz area.
7. Our units shelled a group of enemy personnel in front of their positions in the Abadan area, forcing it to retreat after leaving behind seven dead. Thus, total known enemy losses in personnel are 68 dead.

B. Known enemy losses in equipment:

1. Three tanks, six vehicles, one gun, seven piles of hardware, one observation post and one missile launcher were destroyed.
2. Two fuel reservoirs in the Abadan area were burned and destroyed.
3. At 2315 yesterday, 24 December, an enemy naval target was sighted south of (Ra's al-Bishah) in Shatt al-'Arab. Our naval forces intercepted and sank it.

C. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 15 martyrs in all sectors.
2. In equipment: one personnel carrier, three vehicles and two mortars were damaged. One small boat was sunk in the Karun River.

II. The air forces:

A. Enemy fighter planes raided the modern villages in the Raniyah area of the As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate today. Our ground resistance intercepted them and forced them to flee. Our losses: 5 martyred and 13 wounded civilians. Several houses were damaged.

B. Two enemy helicopters tried to hit our units north of Taheri in the Ahvaz sector today. They were intercepted and shot down by our fighter planes.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 December 1980.

Communique No 191

JN261731 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 26 Dec 80

[Communique No 191 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continued to strike and destroy the enemy remnants' desperate attempts to approach their advanced positions and to undermine their victories. Following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel:

1. Yesterday evening, an enemy force tried to approach our advanced units' positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. Our forces confronted it with all kinds of weapons and forced it to retreat after sustaining 49 dead.
2. Five were killed in the Sumar region
3. Four were killed in the Mehran region.
4. Our advanced units in the Dezful sector confronted an enemy force comprising tank and infantry when it tried to approach our forces' positions. Our forces forced it to retreat, leaving behind two tanks. One of our combat patrols in the same region clashed with an enemy ambush and forced the enemy to flee, leaving behind eight killed.
5. One was killed in the Shush region.
6. A group of enemy troops was sighted in front of our advanced units' positions in the Ahvaz region. Our forces opened light arms and artillery fire on it, forcing it to flee leaving behind 24 dead. Another enemy group tried to approach our units' positions in the same region. Our forces clashed with it with all kinds of weapons and forced it to retreat leaving behind 11 dead.
7. Yesterday evening, one of our combat patrols attacked enemy positions in the Abadan region destroying 3 infantry positions and killing 20 enemy personnel. A group of enemy remnants tried to approach our advanced forces' positions in the same region. Our forces confronted it with all kinds of weapons and forced it to retreat leaving behind 21 dead. Accordingly, known enemy losses in lives amounts to 143.

B. In equipment:

1. The following equipment was destroyed: six tanks; five vehicles, one of which was laden with hardware and another with fuel; three guns of various calibers; one ammunition stockpile; two steamshovels; one observation post; one tube launcher; and one communications station.
2. A fuel storage tank was destroyed and burned in Abadan.
3. Today our army helicopters raided enemy military targets in the Abadan region and destroyed two tanks before returning safely to base.

C. Our naval forces attacked two medium enemy sea targets southwest of the port of Al-Bakr at the head of the Arab Gulf today and destroyed them. They were afire.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 32 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: The following equipment was damaged: four personnel carriers, two vehicles and one mortar.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 December 1980.

'ABD AL-KARIM TALKS WITH OFFICIALS IN JAPAN

For reportage on the activities in Japan of Petroleum Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, see the Japan section of the 22 December and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

AMMAN REPORTS 'DIVISION, COLLAPSE' IN SYRIAN ARMY

JN271510 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1350 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Amman, 27 Dec (PETRA)--News received from Syria says a state of division and collapse is overtaking all Syrian Army ranks, following increased incidents of mutiny and defection among the Syrian Armed Forces' ranks. The news adds that the repetition of such incidents has frightened and worried the Syrian Army General Command, especially since the incidents of defection clearly appeared in the third division, which is in charge of subjugating the city of Aleppo and adjacent regions. The news also says that strong disagreement has recently erupted between elements of the third division and those of the special forces that are stationed in Aleppo. The result of this was that a great number of this division's officers, NCO's and elements fled and joined secret organizations opposing the Syrian regime.

Damascus news reports say that this situation has angered the Syrian leaders. Therefore, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has recently issued a decree removing the commander of the third division, which was stationed in the Aleppo region after returning from the border with Jordan, and appointing Brig Gen 'Ali Jahjah as the division's commander. It will be noted that Jahjah's birthplace is the township of Qardahah, which is also Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's birthplace.

SYRIAN REGIME REPORTEDLY ATTACKING OPPOSITION

JN281521 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 28 Dec 80

[Text] Amman, 28 Dec (PETRA)--Arrivals from Damascus say that for the past few days the city of Aleppo and its surrounding area have been subjected to campaigns of retaliation unleashed by the ruling Syrian regime against Syrian citizens who are opposed to the regime.

Reports say that on 22 December, a force of defense squads supported by a group of Syrian intelligence men, stormed the house of a citizen in the At-Taryan quarter, near the Al-Kawakibi High School in Aleppo, in search of a group opposed to the ruling Syrian regime. The reports add that a clash with light arms ensued between the two sides, lasting 1 and 1/2 hours and resulting in a number of casualties on both sides. On 23 December a defense squads force surrounded the Haydariyah Halluk shops in Aleppo and blew them up, claiming that the shops' owners belong to certain groups opposed to the Syrian regime.

The acts of violence against the Syrian regime have spread to Damascus and its vicinity. Men of the opposition to the Syrian regime shot and killed a pilot captain, whose death was announced by the Syrian Armed Forces General Command. The Syrian security organs demolished two houses on Nahr 'Ayshah Street on suspicion that their occupants helped a group opposed to the ruling Syrian regime. On 24 December the Syrian security organs blew up two more houses in a quarter in Damascus. On 25 December these organs launched a large-scale search in the Al-Maydan quarter, looking for arms caches and men opposed to the Syrian regime. Reports say that acts of violence against the Syrian regime have spread noticeably to Damascus and its vicinity.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES NABULUS MAYOR 28 DEC

JN281540 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 28 Dec 80

[Text] Amman, 28 Dec (PETRA)--In the royal palace today, His Majesty King Husayn received Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah and welcomed his return to the homeland. His majesty hailed the noble spirit of our kinfolk in the occupied land in their resistance against and epulsion of the Israeli occupation. Mr ash-Shak'ah expressed his thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian Government for all the care and interest accorded him. He praised His Majesty King Husayn's pan-Arab stands in the service of the Palestinian cause on the Arab and international levels, as well as his majesty's continued support for steadfastness in the occupied land.

PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT MEMBER ASSASSINATED

JN271946 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1917 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Excerpt] This evening the gang of murder and treason assassinated Darwish az-Zuni, member of the Progressive National Front Central Command and of the Arab Socialist Unionist Party Political Bureau. At 1800 this evening criminals from among those who betray Islam and Muslims and who are agents of Israel and U.S. imperialism directed bullets of perfidy and treason at the person of Darwish az-Zuni, who died instantly.

Our people will not have mercy on the murderers and on those protecting them in the throne of treason in Amman and in Tel Aviv. The hand of justice will reach them wherever they are, no matter in what den they may hide. The killers and their protectors, regardless of their positions or the masks under which they hide, will receive the people's just punishment. Let the enemies of Arabism and the homeland know well that they cannot escape the wrath and the punishment of God and the people.

Az-Zuni's Funeral

JN281505 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Dec 80

[Excerpts] In an impressive procession this morning, Damascus bade farewell to martyr Darwish az-Zuni, member of the Progressive National Front Central Command and of the Arab Socialist Unionist Party Political Bureau, who was assassinated last night by the treasonous criminal hand of the Muslim Brotherhood gang, who are agents of Israel and U.S. imperialism and enemies of the people and homeland.

The funeral procession, which began at the Al-Muwasah hospital and moved toward the Al-Bilal mosque, was led by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Comrade Mahmud al-Ayyubi, assistant leader of the Progressive National Front; Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Masharqah, regional assistant secretary of the front; Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; members of the National and Regional Commands; Progressive National Front Central Command and members; and deputy prime ministers and ministers.

After the burial ceremony was over, Comrade Mahmud az-Zu'bi, Regional Command member, made an obituary speech on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in whic' he said: On behalf of the party, its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, and the peasants and laborers, we say that the pure blood of the martyr and that of our struggler comrades who were martyred before him will not be wasted. Our people's hand will reach the traitors wherever they may be. He asserted that our country, under the leadership of its great party and through its struggling masses, will always face to the designs to defeat our Arab nation and to liquidate the cause of Palestine. He made clear that their dirty actions will only make us more determined to achieve our nation's objectives of unity, freedom and socialism, until the symbols of the conspiracy in Baghdad and Amman are vanquished by our steadfastness and firm national unity.

Press Reaction

JN281031 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "The Blood of Martyrs Will Not Be Wasted," TISHRIN comments on the assassination of martyr Darwish az-Zuni. The paper says: Assassination is not an act of heroism but a crime and the height of cowardice and treachery.

Black mercenary reaction has used assassination in an imperialist-Zionist plot to terrorize and intimidate the people and provoke communal strife to undermine the domestic front, weaken Syria's steadfastness and paralyze its ability to influence developments in the Arab world. But experience has shown that the Syrian masses condemn such methods and reject their aims. Thus, the Syrian masses foiled the plot and crushed the main rings of the gangs of murder and crime.

TISHRIN says: If the remnants of the routed gangs have, in recent days, returned to the method of assassinating doctors, ulema, men of religion, lawyers and innocent people, this return is closely linked with the role assumed by the Jordanian monarchy in the new phase of plotting against Syria and the Palestine question. The regime of his majesty the king has turned Jordan into a den for plotting against Syria's security and safety, a hideout for criminals and a center for training, financing, arming and billeting murderers.

The paper asserts: Syria, which crushed the black reactionary plot early in the year, will make the criminals pay heavily for their crimes and plotting. Syria will pursue the murderers and saboteurs wherever they are and wherever they seek refuge.

Under the headline "The Crimes of the Throng of Treason Will Not Pass Unpunished," ATH-THAWRAH editorially says: If the regime of King Husayn has decided to emulate Israel and the regime of Saddam Husayn by indulging in crime and sabotage and instigating the gangs of treachery and treason to commit crimes against our people, then our struggler masses know how to avenge every drop of blood spilled by that puppet regime through its plotting with the criminal Muslim Brotherhood gang. The Jordanian regime has finally linked its destiny with imperialist and Zionist plans. Its sole concern now is to plot against the Arab future and to pounce on the struggle of the Arab masses.

The torch of Arab struggle led by this steadfast country will not be put out, and the blood of the martyrs will continue to guide our masses' struggle and firm overwhelming reply to all traitors and plotters. Our people know how to chop off the hands that commit crime against its sons and daughters.

Yesterday's criminal assassination of struggler martyr Darwish az-Zuni, which was planned by the throne of treason and crime in Amman and carried out by the criminal and treacherous hands, will not pass unpunished. The reply will be firm and adequate in not only uprooting the criminal gangs and chopping off the hands that support them and stand by them, but also in ridding the Arab nation and masses of all the plotters and traitors who are conspiring against the Arab nation's cause and very existence and who have become tools for crime and treason. Foremost of these tools are the throne of treason in Amman and the regime of Saddam Husayn in Baghdad.

DAMASCUS: GEN DAVID JONES TOURS GOLAN HEIGHTS

JN240730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen David Jones, has made a tour of the occupied Syrian heights accompanied by several officers of the enemy's army. Jones will leave occupied Palestine for Cairo next Friday.

Jones' tour of the region, which includes visits to Jordan, occupied Palestine and Cairo, seeks to achieve coordination among members of the new alliance in the area after Jordan has practically joined the U.S. solutions to the Middle East issue.

LIBYA

JANA COMMENTS ON NATURE OF KISSINGER TRIP

LD281641 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Dec 80

[From the "News and Dimensions" program prepared by JANA political affairs department]

[Text] At a time when the Arab area is being prepared for a new explosion to be detonated by the capitulation and liquidation movement on the road of the Palestine cause, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger leaves Washington on a business trip which will take him to Egypt, occupied Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Morocco.

The fact that Kissinger's visit has coincided with the start of the new American administration has prompted observers to link it with the new line of American policy toward the Arab cause or more precisely the Arab-Zionist conflict.

If we view Kissinger as the observers do, in his capacity as architect of American foreign policy, we find outselves faced with an era of an extreme American rush toward bolstering the Zionists and consecrating their occupation of the Arab territories, if not to say enabling them to expand.

This conclusion stems from the nature of the Kissinger policy which stands for linking domination of oil resources to the strength of the Zionists, or as TIME magazine said in one of its issues in March 1974 following U.S. President Nixon's assignment of the Middle East issue to Kissinger, the new American policy wants to tie the security of Arab oil to a strong Israel, through the settlement plans, that is, the step-by-step policy which was pursued then.

A look at the dossier of Kissinger, the architect of the American policy under ex-President Nixon, highlights three elements which could almost delineate the features of that policy:

1. When Kissinger, who was then national security adviser to U.S. President Nixon, assumed responsibility for the Middle East question, a new trend manifested itself in American policy and was reflected in assurances by Americans, headed by former President Nixon, that there is no likelihood of Mideast peace in the near future. 2. That political line was coupled with an unreserved declared American readiness to continue to supply the Zionist enemy with all its military and economic needs. 3. On the other hand was the line parallel to that of the American stand: the Zionists' occupation of three Arab islands at Bab El Mandeb at the entrance to the Red Sea.

At the time observers considered these three elements as the features characterizing Kissinger's way of tackling the Palestine question. It is a way organically linked with the American strategy which stands for establishing an American hegemony in the Arab area and the Middle East in general and which depends to a great extent on the strength and effectiveness of the Zionist occupation in subverting Arab resistance.

One who follows the capitulatory steps since Kissinger's assumption of responsibility for American policy in the Middle East and the Arab area in 1974--from the military disengagement steps and the kilometer 101 tent to the complete fall of Egypt and the current developments in Lebanon and other events and falls that might follow--can readily realize how far things are moving in the direction drawn up by Kissinger in his capacity as architect of the strategy contained in the reports of U.S. President Nixon and which made the establishment of peace in the area, according to their terms, conditional on the establishment of a new system in the Middle East founded on reorganizing internal conditions in the area.

With the passage of time the theory of the new system seems to be consolidated. It is a system which is completely and directly subservient to American militarism. Thus we see that Egypt, Somalia, Oman and the Arab Gulf up to the shores of the Arabian Sea have become a lively sphere for movement by the American fleets and other American forces.

Kissinger is not the genius of his time, nor is he a miracle maker for America, the America of hegemony, imperialism and influence. For he has failed in Vietnam, and so did his two-edged weapon: the military edge which depends on using force to the maximum and the political edge which depends on exploiting his adversaries' weak points.

Yet we see Kissinger return today tempted by the weak points in the Arab field and the American military expansion in the Arab area. He has come again to ride the wave of the American imperialist tide.

But we must not forget to mention here that Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state and former national security adviser under Nixon, was the first American national security official whose political tasks were linked with two of the most grave, crucial, and sensitive issues: the issue of Palestine and neighboring areas of the Middle East, as they call it, and the issue of energy or the energy crisis, as they claim. That was in March 1974, when he first began to tackle the issue and the area.

Because of that assignment, the experiences of recent years, and the step-by-step method, Kissinger comes today to an Arab area which looks as if it had been prepared by events to face a new explosion on the road of the cause and destiny.

LIAISON SECRETARY ATTACKS U.S., EGYPTIAN POLICIES

LD271330 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] At a press conference he held in Madrid the secretary of the Foreign Liaison Office underlined the hostile American role toward the Arab nation. He said: The American policy is totally partial toward the Zionists, and is exercising pressures on the European states to support it in its hostility and aggressive plans against the Arab nation. He said: The great 1 September revolution knows well the path for the liberation of Palestine.

He called on the Arab nation to use all its potentials and weapons to liberate the occupied Arab territory and to regain its usurped rights. He added: Relations between the Arab homeland and Europe are threatened because of the increasing American military presence in a number of countries in the Arab region and the Indian Ocean.

The secretary of the Foreign Liaison Office criticized the provocations of the American fleets in the Mediterranean Sea and the military concentrations of the Egyptian regime along the border of the Jamahiriyah. He said: This constitutes a grave threat to world peace and security. He praised the realistic and positive role of the Spanish Government and people for comprehending fully the case of the Palestinian people.

MAURITANIA

CMSN DENOUNCES 'SABOTAGE' BY 'FRIENDLY STATE'

LD272144 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] The Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] met on 27 December 1980 under the chairmanship of Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state. After studying the domestic and external situation the Committee strongly denounced certain activities having the character of sabotage conducted by a friendly state inside our national territory.

In view of this situation, the CMSN urged the government to take the necessary measures to stop these activities which, by their nature, damage the fraternal relations we want to have with any country that respects our independence and national sovereignty.

On the other hand, the Council of Ministers met today under the chairmanship of Sidi Ahmed Ould Bneijara, the prime minister. The council released the following communique:

In the context of recommendations made by the Military Committee for National Salvation during its extraordinary meeting on 27 December 1980, the Council of Ministers held an extraordinary meeting on the same day under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr Sidi Ahmed Ould Bneijara, the prime minister. After studying the regrettable situation resulting from the activities of certain diplomatic missions of friendly and fraternal countries, and after examining the grave plotting which causes concern conducted by certain Mauritanian citizens, with foreign collusion, and their obeying individually or collectively orders received from foreign powers, the Council has defined all the practical measures likely to end such moves, in order to ensure respect for national sovereignty, national feelings and the dignity of our people.

The council expressed hope of seeing our relations continue to be based on cooperation, neighborliness and mutual respect, within the framework of relations of one state with another.

SUDAN

ENVOY TO LAGOS CONFERENCE REPORTS TO NUMAYRI

JN261016 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 26 Dec 80

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Dec (SUNA)--President Numayri's envoy to the Lagos conference on Chad's problem 'Izz ad-Din Hamid and Sudan's ambassador to Chad and member of the Sudanese delegation to the conference Yusif Mukhtar were received yesterday by President Numayri. The two officials furnished the president with a detailed report on the meetings and the differences and negative developments [words i: distinct] communique opposed by the majority of the delegations because it has overlooked and internationally ignored the essence of the Chadian problem which is, at this time, the presence of Libyan troops in Chad.

The president's envoy explained to him the line pursued by Nigeria during the conference and her ignoring the need to denounce the Libyan military intervention in Chad and the need to work for the withdrawal of Libyan troops; Hamid also explained to Numayri the attitude of President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone who is chairman of the conference. Dr Stevens deliberately acted to favour the minority of states that worked for skipping any mention of the Libyan invasion while claiming that peace has prevailed in Chad and that this alleged peace is to be bolstered.

In view of all this, Sudan's delegation along with other six delegations rejected the wording of the proposed final communique. The Sudan's delegation explained it would not want to be a party to a communique which is ignoring the facts and which is devoid of (?any) political value and is also below the level of responsibility demanded by the situation.

SUNA CITES EYEWITNESS ON LIBYAN BOMBING IN CHAD

JN271752 Khartoum SUNA in English 1725 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Dec, (SUNA)--At least 362 people were killed in Ndjamena in the Chadian civil war due to random shelling by the Libyan airforce since their intervention in the Chadian territories, according to an eyewitness.

The eyewitness said the Libyan war planes bombed resident areas in the capital from high altitude to avoid the land defence forces of Hissein Habre. The eyewitness added that women and children were among the dead.

SSU CONDEMNS 'LIBYAN INTERVENTION' IN CHAD

JN281537 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Dec 80

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Dec (SUNA)--The SSU General Secretariat issued a statement today in which it condemned the Libyan intervention in Chad. The statement said that this flagrant intervention will only be conducive to further war and instability. In addition, it will expose the security of the region's states to the dangers of foreign intervention and to the superpowers' ambitions.

The statement added that Sudan has always stressed the need to strengthen the ties of Arab-African solidarity and noted that the Libyan intervention in the affairs of various African states threatens this solidarity and destroys the bridges of fraternity and co-operation. The statement called for the withdrawal of all Libyan forces, so that the national forces in Chad can settle their differences and so that the Chadian people can restore their unity and national sovereignty. The following is the text of the statement:

Proceeding from our people's firm stand of adherence to the right of the African Continent's peoples to determine their own destiny and to preserve their independence, sovereignty and security; and in accordance with our political body's call, represented in the resolutions of its national conferences on blocking the avenues for foreign intervention in African states' affairs and on settling internal differences among disputing parties through dialogue and peaceful means, we hold that the blatant Libyan intervention in fraternal Chad will only result in further war and instability. In addition, this intervention will expose the security of the region's states to the dangers of foreign intervention and to the superpowers' ambitions.

Sudan has always stressed the need to strengthen the ties of Arab-African solidarity and to pave the way for creative cooperation between the Arab states and Africa, in support of our African nation's causes and in order to mobilize African support for the Palestinian people's right to determine their destiny and establish their state. However, the flagrant Libyan intervention in the affairs of various African states has threatened this solidarity and destroyed the bridges of fraternity and cooperation that our Arab nation has built, in confirmation of its rights and in support of its causes and of the African peoples' aspirations to progress and stability.

Our political body, while renewing its rejection and condemnation of the Libyan military intervention in fraternal Chad, calls for the withdrawal of all Libyan forces, so that the national forces in Chad can settle their differences, so that the Chadian people can restore their unity and national sovereignty and so that the region can enjoy security and stability.

Our people's eagerness to see stability and national unity in fraternal Chad derives from a firmly entrenched belief, based on experience, that the peoples' unity and sovereignty cannot be protected by foreign forces or safeguarded by foreign intervention. We are fully confident that the Chadian people will regain their sovereignty and national unity by rejecting and resisting this intervention.

NEW YORK MAYOR CALLS JERUSALEM LAW UNNECESSARY

TA251723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 25 Dec 80

[Text] New York Mayor Edward Koch, who is now visiting Israel, is certain that Reagan as president will be favorable for Israel and that he will be better for Israel than Carter. Koch made these remarks at a banquet given in his honor by Knesset Speaker Yitzhaq Berman. Knesset members and several mayors attended the banquet.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reported that in a comment on the Jerusalem law Koch said that Jerusalem belongs to the Jewish people and that the law is not necessary. Earlier, during a tour of the streets of the capital, Koch said that Jerusalem must not be repartitioned and must remain under Israel's control. This is an international city, but it does not have to be under international supervision, he said. Koch advised the Jerusalem municipality to adopt the system of city boroughs used in New York to emphasize autonomy for the residents of the Arab neighborhoods. He also said that Israel must hold out firmly against political pressure by the United Nations.

The visitor paid President Navon a courtesy visit and paid a condolence visit to the Greek Orthodox patriarchate on the death of Patriarch Benedictos I.

NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION, DAYAN AUTONOMY PROPOSAL DEFEATED

TA241219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] The Tehiya faction's motion for no confidence in the government was defeated by a Knesset majority vote. The motion was submitted against the background of the government's objection to legislation on the immediate application of Israeli law in the Golan Heights. Only the two Tehiya faction Knesset representatives voted in favor of the motion and 56 coalition Knesset members voted against it, as well as the Ahva faction and MK Mordekhay Elgrably. Forty-two opposition Knesset members and MK Hayim Druckman from the NRP abstained.

The Knesset removed from its agenda Moshe Dayan's proposal that the Cabinet offer Arabs in the territories to unilaterally establish self-administration. The prime minister said no unilateral and dangerous experiments should be undertaken. This proposal moreover transgresses the Camp David accords. Fifty-three Knesset members voted in favor of removing the issue from the Knesset's agenda, 39 voted for holding a debate on it and three abstained. Four coalition members--MK's Olmert, Glass, Peretz and Shoval--were among those who supported Dayan's proposal. Liberal MK Avraham Katz abstained.

MILITARY CIRCLES CRITICIZE BUDGET DECISION

TA241322 Jerusalem POST in English 24 Dec 80 p 2

[Military Correspondent Hirsh Goodman report: "Military Assails Gov't Claims on Defense Budget"]

[Text] Despite assurances from government officials yesterday that the Cabinet's decision to appropriate only IS15.5 billion for defence will not drastically affect military staff and programmes, senior defense sources last night maintained this was "pulling the wool over the public's eyes."

Israel aircraft industries, although it has not yet been informed about the government's intentions, expects to lay off at least 3,000 workers and possibly even 5,000.

Defense officials admit that the Lavi fighter aircraft project may not have to be cut this year, since only $10 million was appropriated for 1981 (as opposed to $20m, last year and $30m, for 1982). The real harm, they say, will result from tampering with the Kfir fighter production line. The Merkava tank is also going to be effected, along with the Ramon Negev redeployment project, training hours, reserve days, and the size of the regular army.

No amount of double talk can hide the fact that the IDF in 1981, given a budget of IS15.5B, is not going to be the same IDF we were told to build this year," a source said. "Those who made the decision should have the courage to admit the truth."

The Defense Ministry had requested more than IS21B, but later said it could manage with IS18.6B.

The brunt of the cut will be felt in defence industries. The IAI, the major employer, believes that talk of cutting the Kfir project will have an adverse effect on potential buyers. The Mexican defense minister is due in January and the chances of Mexico purchasing the plane are considered good.

The cut will leave the IAI with millions of dollars worth of parts purchased in recent years for scheduled production.

Defense Ministry sources also rejected a contention by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori that another IS10B will be added by selling old equipment abroad. This sum, they said, was included in the initial budgetary considerations and to re-include them is only double bookkeeping.

CHIEF OF STAFF BANNED FROM PRESENTING BUDGET STAND

TA280835 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Dec 80

[Military correspondent's report]

[Text] Prime Minister and Defense Minister Menahem Begin did not allow the chief of staff to appear before the editors' committee of the DAILY PRESS to present his position and that of the IDF on the issue of the defense budget.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori met with members of the editors' committee and told them of the decision by the economic minicabinet and his position regarding the cuts to the defense budget. After that, the editors' committee asked the chief of staff's office if the chief of staff would appear before it and present the IDF position. Such an approach requires prior coordination with the defense minister, but Mr Begin did not give his approval. In contrast to this, a meeting between the chief of staff and members of the editors' committee on the issue of youths in the IDF who require special treatment was approved.

It is claimed in the IDF that for several weeks there has been a feeling among the senior command that the IDF is being "gagged." In addition to "Raful's" [nickname for Refa'el Eytan] appearance before the editors' committee having been canceled, a request that the chief of staff appear on a television interview about the budget issue was turned down, as were requests for other interviews, including one with the financial adviser and the economic adviser of the Defense Ministry and another with the director-general of the Defense Ministry.

IDF heads are saying that the deputy defense minister does not represent the IDF position on the budget issue and that the public is receiving only partial information about the issue.

REPORTAGE ON CONCLUSION OF OAU MEETING ON CHAD

AFP on Results

AB241727 Paris AFP in English 1612 GMT 24 Dec 80

[By Alain Boebion]

[Text] Lagos, Nigeria, 24 Dec (AFP)--The Organisation of African Unity's conference on the future of Chad broke up in confusion here early today, with a final communique approved by only six of the 13 delegations attending after major differences appeared on the question of Libyan involvement.

The communique called on President Goukouni Oueddei's government in Chad to agree to the despatch of a control force to supervise the organisation of free and fair elections in cooperation with the OAU before the end of January, 1982.

The delegations from Chad, led by Mr. Goukouni, and from Libya, his ally in winning the Chad civil war, were among those that approved the document, which did not specifically call for a Libyan withdrawal from Chad.

The Lagos meeting was organised after the forces of Mr. Goukouni's coalition, aided by Libyan personnel and weapons, defeated the troops of rebel Defence Minister Hissein Habre early last week. Mr Goukouni, Mr Habre and Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Salaam at-Turayki were all last-minute, unexpected, arrivals in the Nigerian capital yesterday. (Mr Habre was refused entry to the talks.)

The communique also requested OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo to prepare a conference on aid for Chad and appealed to the international community to provide all possible assistance to the government.

The text was approved by Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Congo and Benin, in addition to Chad and Libya. The seven other delegations--Sudan, Senegal, Togo, Guinea, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Niger--left before the end of the conference without voting on the communique.

Observers here said that this conference--the fifth on Chad to be held in Nigeria--had confirmed the legitimacy of Mr Goukouni's government and had indirectly endorsed the Libyan presence in Chad.

As the conference opened yesterday, it had seemed that the majority tendancy favoured condemning the Libyan presence and calling for a withdrawal of Libyan forces from the Central African state. Mr Goukouni, who contends that there are no Libyan troops in Chad, only technicians, had refused to discuss this issue, and thus had originally intended to skip the talks. But as the conference continued, things turned out differently.

Nigeria, which has played a major role over the past two years in attempts to resolve the Chadian crisis, sided on this occasion with Libya. (After a meeting here with Mr Triki on December 10, Nigeria's President Shehu Shagari expressed concern over possible escalation of the Chadian crisis as a result of Libyan military intervention in the civil war.)

While Libya and the Chad Government emerged from the conference victors on this point, [words indistinct] said that the talks had failed in that they produced no positive new developments and had served mainly to reaffirm that the Lagos accord, signed here in August 1979, provided the only basis for peace in Chad.

The question of Libyan intervention in the Chadian civil war alongside Mr. Goukouni's allied forces produced a debate that was stormy at times, the sources said.

As the conference opened, the seven states that ended up leaving early had submitted a strongly-worded draft for a Lagos declaration, which included a condemnation of Libyan intervention and occupation of Chad as a flagrant violation of the Lagos accord and the OAU charter and as a factor of destabilisation in Africa.

It called for an immediate end to Libyan occupation and interference in Chad's internal affairs.

The other delegations--Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Libya, Congo and Benin (Chad had not vote)--submitted a large number of amendments to the text, and observers noted that the final communique adopted by these states made no reference to a condemnation of Libya or a call on Tripoli to withdraw its personnel from Chad.

The document did state that no foreign troops should be stationed in Chad, unless within the terms of the Lagos accord.

(In statements after they returned home from Lagos, the presidents of Senegal, Congo and Benin all described the conference as a success, although the Senegalese leader, Leopold Senghor, asserted that the meeting had called for a withdrawal of foreign troops.

(Only President Seyni Kountche of Niger offered a critical post-conference comment, warning that there would be no peace in Chad unless foreign troops there were withdrawn.

(Mr Senghor said in Dakar that the conference was a success because the OAU had taken the correct decisions. The meeting, he said, had condemned foreign intervention and demanded that foreign forces be withdrawn from Chad. Seven delegations had abstained on the final resolution because Libya was not named in it, he added. Mr. Senghor concluded that Mr Habre made the great mistake of not foreseeing his defeat. In politics mistakes must be paid for.

(Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso said that all the delegations were satisfied with the outcome of the conference because it had decided that everything should be done to keep peace in Chad. Benin's Mathieu Kerekou said that the conference had reached pertinent and positive conclusions.)

Congolese President's Remarks

AB241650 Paris AFP in French 1542 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] Brazzaville, 24 Dec (AFP)--The Lagos conference on Chad was not a failure. A communique was adopted and published. President Denis Sassou-Nguesso made this declaration on his return from Nigeria.

The Congolese head of state added that participants are satisfied with the outcome because it was decided that every possible means would be used to maintain the cease-fire in Chad and in this regard, the discussions also dealt with the contribution of all peace-loving countries of the world to the reconstruction of Chad.

Colonel Sassou-Nguesso has made an appeal to the Congolese people and other people of the world to show a feeling of solidarity with Chad.

Niger President's Statements

AB241626 Paris AFP in French 1529 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] Niamey, 24 Dec (AFP)--The heads of state who met in Lagos to examine the Chadian problem did not reach any decision, President Seyni Kountche of Niger said on Wednesday on his return to Niamey. He added that there can never be real peace in Chad if the troops there are not withdrawn and if the interference in its internal affairs does not cease.

President Kountche emphasized that the heads of state were of the opinion that the Chadian problem should be settled within the framework of the Lagos accord. If this framework is rejected, the Niger president stressed, there will be a new situation created, that is why we can say that the summit did not arrive at any decision. Some sort of force, whatever its strength, should be around to ensure that there is calmness when the Chadians are asked to freely choose their leaders, President Kountche added.

If these precautions are not taken, it will be difficult for those who represent the continental organization to really assess a problem which concerns not only a neighboring country but also a member of our organization, he concluded.

At-Turayki Talks With Leaders

AB241838 Paris AFP in French 1517 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] Paris, 24 Dec (AFP)--The Libyan secretary (minister) of foreign affairs, Mr 'Abd al-Salaam at-Turayki, held talks on Wednesday morning in Lagos with Presidents Shehu Shagari of Nigeria, Sassou-Nguesso of the Congo and Sekou Toure of Guinea; this was reported by the Libyan news agency (JANA) received in Paris.

The agency indicated that the talks made it possible to examine the aspects of cooperation with these African countries and the ways and means of strengthening it. They also examined the situation in Africa.

Also, according to radio Tripoli, Mr at-Turayki had held talks the day before with Gen Ganssingbe Eyadema, the Togolese head of state and chairman of the OAU ad hoc committee on Chad. The talks were centered on the conference agenda and on the assistance African countries, international organizations, and friendly and brotherly countries could grant to Chad for the reconstruction of its economy.

Goukouni Statements to Newsmen

AB271030 Paris AFP in French 0943 GMT 27 Dec 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 27 Dec (AFP)--President Goukouni Oueddei yesterday rejoiced over the fact that certain participants in the Lagos conference on Chad failed to have Libya condemned explicitly and thus make the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) lose its credibility.

The final communique of the Lagos conference, which ended last Wednesday, denounced the presence of foreign troops in Chad except in accordance with the accords concluded on 21 August 1979 in the Nigerian capital between the 11 Chadian factions. The communique gave no further details on this.

Receiving a group of Western journalists in his residence in Ndjamena, the GUNT president affirmed that Libya has not invaded Chad. He, therefore, believed that the final communique expressed a point of which which we consider [words indistinct]. [Words indistinct] who will proceed mainly with the repair of the control tower of the Ndjamena airport, the rehabilitation of the telecommunication network and the establishment of dispensaries and hospitals.

Asked how he felt about Libya's occupation since June 1973 of the Aouzou strip in the extreme north of the country, the president said he is faced with a fait accompli bequeathed by the former Tombalbaye regime. "Nobody can come between Chad and Libya to divide them," he added in this regard. After insisting again on the assistance given to his country by the Libyan authorities, President Goukouni Oueddei declared that he was patiently waiting for a goodwill gesture by France which, he said, has not yet been made.

LIBERIA

POLITICAL PRISONERS FREED; TOLBERT SON NOT RELEASED

AB241445 Paris AFP in English 1426 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Text] Monrovia, Dec. 24 (AFP)--Liberia's military regime set more than 20 political prisoners free today and announced what appeared to be the first step in a return to civilian rule. Master Sgt. Samuel Doe, head of the Peoples Redemption Council that took power in a coup April 12, said that the Christmas-eve release was generally excepting only a few security and army personnel.

There was apparently another exception, however. It was reported that A. Benedict Tolbert--son of President William Tolbert, who was killed in the coup--was not freed. He has been held in the main military camp here since June, when Liberian soldiers seized him from the French Embassy where he had taken refuge in April. Sgt. Doe also said that the military council would appoint a commission to draft a new constitution, and that the panel would be announced shortly.

The head of state said the military remained committed to our pledge to return to barracks, given shortly after the coup. We took power to restore to the Liberian people a sociopolitical system based on the principles of democracy, Sgt. Doe said. To achieve this goal, there must be social, economic and political justice as well as fair and open elections. He said the new constitution would take account of these considerations.

NIGERIA

ARMED FORCES DISLODGE KANO RELIGIOUS RIOTERS

AB290623 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Dec 80

[Text] The armed forces have successfully dislodged the religious fanatics from the areas occupied by them in Kano. Sixty-five people held captive by the fanatics have been set free and are being kept at three infantry brigades in Kano. Announcing this in Lagos last night, the minister of defense, Professor Iya Abubakar, said that the operation to dislodge the fanatics was successfully carried out at 1630 yesterday afternoon. Meanwhile, mopping-up operations are still in progress to clear the areas of undesirable elements. Professor Abubakar appealed to members of the public to still keep away from the area of operation until it will be vacated by the armed forces.

Yesterday, President Shehu Shagari authorized the military to take over control of security operations in Kano city, where there had been a breakdown of law and order as a result of the riotious activities of the religious fanatics. The directives of the president, who is also the commander in chief of the armed forces, came after receiving the situation report from the governor of Kano state in which it was confirmed that efforts by the police force to contain the situation had so far been unsuccessful. In compliance with the presidential directives, the military began operations in the affected part of the city in the early hours of yesterday.

OFFICIAL URGED TO GIVE PROTECTION TO HISSEIN HABRE

AB290746 Paris AFP in English 0719 GMT 29 Dec 80

[Text] 29 Dec (AFP)--Sudan called on Nigeria to refuse a reported request by the Chadian Government for the extradition of defeated Chadian rebel leader Hissein Habre, the Sudan news agency (SUNA) said. The agency said Sudanese Foreign Affairs Under-Secretary Kashim Osman summoned the Nigerian charge d'affaires here and told him that Sudan was confident of the wisdom and responsibility of Nigerian President Shehu Shagari towards Mr Habre, who went to Lagos for the recent summit conference on Chad but was barred from the talks. Mr Osman said that if Mr Habre was still in Lagos, Sudan hoped that he would be given protection until he chose to leave.